The Middlebury Campus

Social houses acquitted Rugby investigated for

By Kyle Finck

After a three-week investigation, Old Chapel found Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) and Omega Alpha (Tavern) innocent of all hazing charges.

"After careful consideration and review of the evidence, the College has found that the activities reported regarding KDR and Tavern did not constitute hazing as that term is defined in college policy," said Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado in a statement.

The College's findings are given to the Inter-House Council (IHC), the governing body of social houses, who ultimately decide any pun-

According to Collado's statement, the IHC approved the College's findings for KDR and Tavern.

"In a word: relieved," said Tavern member Zach Marlette '13. "It has been such a long and arduous process that it was just good to hear

According to Marlette, all pledges and house members were emailed on Friday, Dec. 2, and met with Collado and Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott later that day.

Marlette praised Collado and Smith Abbott for their transparency during the meeting.

"It was nice to actually sit down with [Collado and Smith Abbott] because as they said, 'we're not Old Chapel, we're people," he said. "They let us know that they sympathize with us and they understand."

Marlette is a former rush chair at the house and plans to run for president during Winter Term. He said the outcome of the meeting was a greater sense of cooperation between Tavern and Old Chapel.

The Administration has a lot going on other than the social houses. It's not in their best interest or ours to have a three-week hazing

what we though all along was found investigation," he said. "Going forward, it will be all about cooperation and making sure this doesn't happen again."

Former KDR President Schooner Sonntag, whose term ended Nov. 29, expressed similar relief.

"We're glad that this is all behind us and we plan on moving forward with a bunch of activities for the Middlebury community," he

In the immediate future, Collado emphasized re-education and re-evaluation.

"Middlebury intends to reinforce the goals and values of the hazing policy with both social houses. All members of both houses will be required to attend an intensive hazing education program during January term. In the spring, the college will also engage the IHC in a thorough review of the entire pledge system," her statement said.

SEE SOCIAL, 2

town graffiti incident



Marble Works was one of multiple sites in downtown Middlebury of that suffered acts of graffiti on Nov. 25.

Trespass order creates controversy

By Jess Berry

ears

ght.

na-

ring

n in

the

ch a

ame

atch

ith,

d a

ime

lton

irly

ex-

skill

ould

hey

Go-

led

the

not

vith

only

ven last

A No Trespass order issued by Public Safety to a black male on Nov. 21 has caused significant student outcry. The man, 28-yearold Luaay Elamir, was being hosted by Barrett Smith '13 from Nov. 14 to Nov. 21 in Stewart Hall, where Smith was a First-Year Counselor (FYC). As a result of his hosting of Elamir and his handling of the subsequent investigation, Smith lost his FYC position on Monday,

On Monday, Nov. 21, at about 3:30 p.m., Public Safety received a call alleging that Elamir urinated in a cup in a lounge on the second floor of Stewart and then proceeded to throw it out the window and that, in a separate incident, someone walked in on him drip-drying naked in the shower area of a men's bathroom in Stewart.

Director of Public Safety Lisa Burchard explained that protocol was then followed to further investigate the reports.

"As we're trying to follow up on that, we do what we would

normally do, which is go to Stewart, try to locate the person, locate people who might know who this person is," said Burchard. "In the course of that, we not only did not find the person that was being described, but the officers involved did get some information that they pretty quickly had determined was ... incorrect information."

Smith, the hosting student, explained that when the Public Safety officers came to Stewart, he was approached in the bathroom, about to get in the shower. At that point, Elamir was not in Stewart and Smith was unsure of his exact

"I was really taken off-guard," said Smith. "I don't really have any justification for doing this ... [but] in that moment of [discomfort], I initially said he was a friend from back home.'

In fact, Smith had met Elamir on Oct. 1 at Occupy Wall Street in New York, where they talked for several hours.

Elamir mentioned at the protest that he would be heading home to Vancouver in a few weeks by way of Burlington, and Smith offered him a place to stay in his room, if Elamir needed it.

During a second set of questioning shortly after the initial interaction with Public Safety, Smith admitted the truth about how he knew Elamir.

"I made a mistake, but I rectified it fairly quickly," he said.

At this point, Public Safety told Smith "they wanted to issue a No Trespass order against [Elamir]." They told Smith that Elamir needed to be contacted by 5:00 p.m., when the No Trespass Order would be issued.

Because Smith had left campus for town, Public Safety contacted the MPD for assistance.

"We needed to get in touch with the Middlebury Police and find out if they could locate the person in town," said Burchard. "We wanted to issue a No Trespass order, which we do in many instances when we have somebody on campus, or who

SEE INCIDENT, 2

By Kyle Finck

At 4:35 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 25, downtown Middlebury was hit with multiple acts of vandalism, most notably a piece of graffiti reading "Rugby Ginger '11."

Middlebury Police Department (MPD) Officer Neil Mogerley said the vandalism included smiley faces painted around Marble Works and a stick figure with the word "ginger" adorning the Main Street Bridge.

"We do have two witnesses that saw the person and we're also working on pulling the security footage from the area," Mogerley said.

On Sunday, Nov. 30, around 7 p.m., Mogerley and Public Safety Sergeant Tom Baker interviewed Brian Sirkia '12.5, one of the men's Rugby captains, at his Atwater Suite.

"I was obviously kind of surprised, and that's never who you want to see standing outside your door," Sirkia said. "That was the first I had heard of it, and was surprised to hear that someone had sprayed 'rugby' somewhere in town.

"He basically told me that the easy way to take care of it is to just come forward now and the punishment would just be some community service," said Sirkia. "The hard way was to take fingerprints off the spray cans they recovered, fingerprint the team and compare them. He said if it got to that point, it meant jail time for whoever did it.'

Men's rugby assistant coach Ben Wells called the interaction "heavyhanded," but said he understood the MPD's response.

"We are certain that none of the men were actually involved, so it's frustrating when it's assumed we're already guilty," he said. "On the other side of the coin, they didn't have much to go on."

Sirkia was one of the few male rugby players who stayed on campus over Thanksgiving Break.

"I'm guessing Public Safety checked who was still on campus for break and cross-referenced that with the rugby roster to find my name, which made me the prime suspect."

According to Wells, of the 60 players on the roster, only four were on campus over break.

"None of [the four] were partying at the time and they all have numerous people who can vouch for their whereabouts," said Wells. "It's pretty clear it was nobody on the men's rugby team."

Mogerley denied any claims of heavy-handedness and pointed out that an interview does not implicate any form of guilt.

"It's just a lead we went on. I'm not saying it's [the men's rugby team]," he said. "We see something spray painted 'rugby,' obviously we go around and ask questions."

After Mogerley brought up the

SEE TEAM, 5

STANDALONE ONLY





On behalf of the International Youth Climate Movement, Abigail Borah '13 gave an address to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change Nov. 28 in Durban, South Africa. See story on page 5.



'FARMERS' Market has HOLIDAY TWIST



OLD STONE MILL SHOWCASES **COLLEGE ARTISTS**



STUDENTS REPRODUCE QUIXOTE CLASSIC



Sixty-six percent of Egyptian voters cast their ballots for religious parties in the first round of historic elections that took place last week, leaving the West fearing a political transformation that will leave the world with an Islamic Republic, much like Iran.

In light of the violent protests that have taken place in the past few weeks, many worried that the election turnout would be low. On the contrary, the occupation of Tahrir Square decreased to only a few thousand as protesters chose to take their opinions out of the streets and to the polls.

While some view the election participation as a stride toward democratic freedom, others feel that the election itself is only a display of democracy and that the outcome does not reflect popular feeling, a thought that liberal parties, who only won 15 percent of the vote, find comforting.

"There is no justice, no integrity, no confidence," Magda Mokabel told a reporter with *The New York Times*. "But I came because then I will have done my duty, so I will ask to claim my rights."

Others came because authorities threatened the possibility of an \$80 fine for those who chose not to participate in the election.

Despite doubt, cynicism and threats, many demonstrated pride and optimism for Egypt's future.

This future may not align with western or liberal expectations, as election results revealed that over 60 percent of voters identify with religious parties. A shocking 20 percent of votes went to Islamic extremist groups, reported CNN.

During a campaign rally in Giza, an Islamic scholar affiliated with one such group stated, "To give your vote for Islamists is a religious issue," reported the *Times*. He continued that he advocated "the rule of God, not the rule of the people."

The more moderate Muslim Brotherhood Peace and Justice Party garnered 40 percent of the vote. Saad Al Hussaini, a party leader, told CNN that their victory reflected decades of work. Once outlawed by the Egyptian government, their resistance to Mubarak seems to have inspired the Egyptian people and, according to Hussaini, won their trust.

One voter expressed her hope that the Brotherhood would "change everything." She told CNN cameras, "Health, housing, jobs, girls who walk around with their heads uncovered, girls who walk around in the wrong clothing. God willing, they'll fix everything."

During an interview with CNN, Amre Moussa, the former secretary-general of the Arab League, expressed hope that this showing of support for the religious parties would awaken and unite supporters who wish for a separation between church and state. He was quick to remind his interviewer that Egypt is still in the first round of the first phase of elections. Despite his own disappointment with the results, Moussa emphasized the importance of democracy, stating, "We can't have our cake and eat it, too ... we have to respect the will of the people."

Leaders of the Brotherhood, unlike extremists, have offered assurances that they will do nothing to infringe upon the rights of non-Muslims. In fact, they claim to encourage the opposition and recognize the importance of different perspectives in Egypt's governance.

Despite his fearing the prospect of religious groups' involvement in the government, Moussa is optimistic, commenting in his interview, "The Middle East of last year is gone for good. We will have a new Arab world and a vigorous Arab world [as well as] a new set of relations."

Final parliamentary elections are scheduled for March. The results of the last round of voting will determine what type of "new world" will emerge and, if governed by Islamic law, what sort of relations it will have with the West.

Incident prompts concerns of racism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

may return to campus, that shouldn't be on campus."

Chief of Police Thomas Hanley explained that Elamir was not in town at the Ilsley Public Library, as originally expected, prompting the MPD officers to search for Elamir on campus.

"The library was closed, so the officers went to the [Davis Family] Library and located the man there, and ... Public Safety served him with the notice," wrote Hanley in an email.

"Our involvement was limited. There were two officers assigned, [and] one of the officers was accompanied by a recruit officer who was in training."

The two MPD officers and the officer-intraining escorted Elamir into the lobby of the Davis Family Library, where they waited for two Public Safety officers to arrive.

"During that time, [Elamir] just kept saying 'I don't know what I did wrong, I was just using the computer, can you give me an explanation for why this is happening?" said Anna Clements '12.5, who was in the lobby at the time.

Noting the potentially excessive number of officers present, she added, "In my opinion, the [MPD] were being insensitive towards him ... When we were in the lobby, one of the officers said, 'You peed in a cup in front of girls,' and ... 'You threw it at them.' I don't know if that's true."

Burchard agreed that there was no need for five officers to be present in the library, and plans to discuss this with the MPD in order to avoid future situations where more officers are sent on a case than are necessary.

Following the incident in the library, Elamir was escorted back to Stewart to gather his belongings. Smith met him there and his friend, Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13, followed close behind. As Elamir gathered his things, both Smith and Koplinka-Loehr say they felt harassed and disrespected by the officers.

"Officer [Neil] Mogerley [of the MPD] said that he would arrest all of us if we did not leave the building," wrote Koplinka-Loehr in his statement. "Despite [Smith]'s limited mobility [due to a broken foot] they continued to rush us and push for a faster pace, saying that we were 'wasting their time.'

According to Koplinka-Loehr, "Officer Amy [Buck of Public Safety] said she felt that [Smith]'s friendship with Elamir was 'disturbing."

Once his belongings were gathered, Elamir left campus with Smith and some of Smith's friends. Smith says he hasn't heard from Elamir since.

On Wednesday, Nov. 23, Smith posted an anonymous editorial piece on the blog The Gadfly, "an independent publication and forum for discussion not officially associated with Middlebury College," according to the publication's website. His editorial, titled "Institutional Racism: Alive and Well at Middlebury College," alleged that the incident was reflective of racism at the College.

The editorial did not include specific details about the events, and Smith admitted that this was a conscious editorial decision.

"I still think that what I said was valid, even without the greater nuances [of the entire situation]," Smith said. "I think that we need to be having these conversations about race and class on campus, and this was something that happened that gave an avenue to have these conversations. So I recognize that I did leave out parts of it, and if someone thinks that that's misleading, I'd like to talk to them about it."

Before it was taken down a week later, the blog post garnered significant response in the comments section following the piece.

Rachel Callender '12 was extensively involved in the discussion, initially criticizing the role Public Safety and the MPD played in the incident

"There are members of this campus who I know personally that have visitors here for over a month and they don't get so much as an email," she wrote on the blog. "Why? Is it because their friends look like the majority of MiddKids do and are therefore snuck under

the radar? Should this be accepted?"

Concerned with the details that were lacking in the blog post, Callender sought a meeting with Director of Public Safety Lisa Burchard, who met with Callender and answered all of her questions.

"The meeting was extremely productive and extremely respectful," said Callender. "[After speaking with Burchard,] I was convinced that it was not a racially motivated incident."

"It's so easy, especially within the minority group on campus, to feel victimized ... there's a huge sensitivity of the issue on campus," Callender added. She identifies as "half black, half white." "So I don't blame those who feel threatened by such an incident. I do feel, however, that it is our duty to always search for the facts."

Burchard appreciated Callender's questions, and felt that the meeting was a beneficial discussion for both parties.

"Any time we do our work, if people raise concerns, we look at it ... and try to determine whether or not we were following our policy and procedure," said Burchard, and if "we could do our job better."

In this case, however, Burchard said that the officers were following procedures correctly.

Callender did feel, however, that had Elamir been a white male, his treatment would have been less acceptable and caused greater outcry.

She was not the only student who felt that the incident was an example of racism on campus, either. Matt Birnbaum '12 expressed his concern with student reactions to Elamir's presence on campus.

"If questionable behavior was indeed observed by fellow students, why were neither [the] guest nor [the] host approached to discuss the matter?" he wrote in an email, noting that it is not uncommon for students to have guests for over one month without concern from Public Safety. The responses on The Gadfly, Birnbaum added, were also concerning.

"One student [alleged] that this 'guest' had to leave because he was 'smelly' (since when is it Middlebury policy to remove 'smelly' people with the help of police?)," Birnbaum wrote. "It was as if the social biases that many members of our community have long acknowledged, were on full display, out from behind 'the curtain of privilege."

On Monday, Dec. 5, Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott informed Smith that he had lost his position as an FYC for Brainerd Commons. Smith said Smith Abbott expressed concern about his decision in bringing an older man he barely knew to a first-year dorm and "the way in which [he] responded to the people who said they felt uncomfortable."

Smith said that at dinner one night during Elamir's stay, some girls who live in Stewart talked with him about their experience with Elamir in the second floor lounge, where he urinated in a cup and proceeded to throw the cup out of the window.

"The way in which the situation was presented to me was that it was something really strange, but I never got the feeling that they felt that their safety was being threatened," said Smith. "But that's one area where I definitely messed up, in terms of not interrogating the situation more fully and involving more of my Res life team in a response."

Smith had multiple meetings throughout the week of Nov. 27 with the Brainerd Residential Life staff and Dean of Brainerd Commons Natasha Chang, who Smith said supported him throughout the week and had hoped to keep him as an FYC.

Smith then had a meeting set up with Smith Abbott, Chang and Head of Brainerd Commons Roman Graf in the afternoon on Dec. 5. He said he felt "blind-sided" by this meeting, which he believed was going to be an opportunity for him to give his side of the story.

"I'm really, really concerned about my hall ... [and] the process by which this was done," he said. "I wasn't given the opportunity to speak to any of the other deans, and it wasn't transparent at all. I feel like there was no semblance of due process."

Social houses move forward following allegations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Marlette agreed with Collado but believes reviewing IHC protocols should only be the first step.

"We all realize that the IHC protocol is flawed," he said. "The process needs to be augmented, especially because it hasn't changed with the new rules for this year."

The College suspended all functions at KDR on Nov. 1 and at Tavern on Nov. 3, opening hazing investigations into both houses.

The College's investigation prompted a hailstorm of criticism from members and pledges alike. Namely, the pledge class sent a letter to Collado — signed by nearly every member — outlining the benefits of the house and staunchly defending its innocence.

"Collado and Smith Abbott said they saw a lot of passion from members and pledges about this," said Marlette. "We do feel very strongly, we do feel very passionate about this house. Did it have an effect? Absolutely."

Marlette said the biggest loser from the investigation is the current pledge class. The investigations ended all pledging, leaving the House in unchartered territory after the ruling

"With pledge this semester now suspended, we have two options regarding what to do with this pledge class," he said. "We will either have to let this pledge class enter the house as members as they are now without a complete pledge or initiation process under their belts, or say 'sorry guys, you're going to have to pledge next semester. Given how much this pledge class has stood up for us, we have chosen to go with the former option."

In the future, Marlette said the challenge will be making sure everybody at Tavern feels comfortable, an admittedly frustrating and difficult task.

"Right now, if one of the pledge events was to draw in coloring books and someone felt humiliated and were to tell the administration, there would be a three-week investigation," he said. "Something's gotta come into play to say 'they clearly weren't trying to haze anybody. If someone felt hazed simply because they had to color in a coloring book, would you really say that we were the unreasonable ones in that scenario for choosing that as an event?"



Free Friday Film Dur Idiot Brother at Dana Auditorium FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.

Pub Night Preview
Tall Heights to play in
Crossroads Cafe. 21+
bring two forms of ID.
FRIDAY 9-11 P.M.

Zumba

Come dance the calories away at McCullough Social Space. SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



Bike room plans move forward

By Allison Forrest

The Student Government Association (SGA) and Old Chapel are currently discussing the details of how to implement the You-Power Bike Room and FIC Gym bill, which the SGA passed on Nov. 20.

Old Chapel has concerns regarding the next steps to implement the bill, which proposes the purchase of 12 stationary bikes that will generate usable energy power, in addition to the creation of a weight room with both free weights and fixed machines in the basement of the Freeman International Center (FIC). The bike room will include a display to track the total kilowatts of energy generated. Each cyclist will also be able to monitor how much energy he or she individually produces. The creation of the gym is expected to cost approximately \$50,000, which includes both the spin and weight room components.

The bill is the result of extensive planning by Astrid Schanz-Garbassi '12, who originally proposed the project to the administration and SGA in the spring.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, SGA Treasurer Scott Klenet '12 met with Vice President for Administration Tim Spears, who oversees Facilities Services, in a meeting that both described as "productive." Spears explained that Facilities staff had worked with Astrid to identify FIC as the space for her project, but that many logistical questions about the space — its suitability, needs, and maintenance — remained before the SGA's proposal could be implemented.

Though he expressed support for the combination of the Ross gym proposal with the YouPower project, Spears expressed concern with the vagueness of the SGA bill, particularly regarding the peculiarities of the FIC space. The room is small, has two levels and very little air circulation and adjoins the Bunker, which receives a lot of late-night foot traffic on weekends that could disturb the gym and its equipment.

"It seemed that there had been no followup between the SGA and anyone in Facilities to see whether a gym — mats, and weights and all that stuff — would actually fit in that space, along with the spinning program," said Spears.

Furthermore, though the SGA has allocated funds to purchase the equipment for the gym, it remains unclear how the project will be financially maintained going forward.

The original bill proposed that the SGA create a new campus organization called YouPower Midd, which would be responsible for the management and continuing operations of the exercise space, including hiring and paying monitors, such as those who work at the Fitness Center — necessary to guard against the liabilities that accompany potentially dangerous equipment. The SGA



SOPHEAK CHHENG

The current plan for the bike room location is in the basement of FIC, pictured above.

therefore proposed that the administration purchase the energy generated by the bikes in order to defray the costs of maintaining the facility.

Spears argues that the College would need to be financially responsible for maintaining such a project, should it successfully be implemented.

"It seems to me that if the SGA was to pay the start-up costs in borrowing the equipment that we could figure out how to manage that operation once it's been set up," he said. "The College would assume the oversight of the monitors and the space and pay for it. The SGA should not be expected to fund the maintenance of this program going forward."

After the meeting with Spears, Klenet agreed that this arrangement now represents the "basic framework" of the SGA's plan

"We moved closer to a consensus on a mutually agreeable division of financial responsibilities for the FIC gym project," he wrote in an email. "We are fast arriving at an agreement that resolves my main concern, ensuring the initiative's long-term financial sustainability while minimizing total SAF exposure."

Spears emphasized the importance of working with Facilities to better understand the intricacies of establishing a gym and bike room in FIC. He also noted that the project could become much more expensive than the SGA had originally imagined, and noted that the funds would come from the College's renewal and replacement reserves and need to compete for financing with other pressing Facilities projects.

"If we did move into that space and ren-

ovate it so that it could be a proper fitness center, that will require some resources well beyond what SGA could pay and well beyond what we could expect SGA to pay," he said.

Spears noted that the project must be considered to be in a "beginning" stage.

The SGA is eager to make the FIC gym a reality. The bill includes termination clauses that will render the proposal invalid if specific actions are not taken within designated time periods.

"We don't want this to languish for years, essentially," said Klenet. "I don't want to put aside \$50,000 and then not know next year, or the year after, whether I can touch that."

Klenet believes that the larger size and greater accessibility of the FIC gym make it preferable to the proposed Ross gym.

It is "an opportunity to increase the size of the gym and create it so it has a bigger impact on student's lives, while bringing down the cost of the total package," he said.

"I'm really excited about the YouPower's potential to make tangible just how tough it is to produce energy, to provide an alternate workout space on campus and to host awesome events that start dialogues about energy consumption," said Schanz-Garbassi.

President of the SGA Vin Recca '12 expressed enthusiasm for the project's prog-

"I am proud that members of my administration are moving quickly and cooperatively with the College to address students' long-standing areas of concern," he said. "I believe this project represents how the SGA and the College can work together to find creative solutions and best engage each other on substantial issues to produce the greatest impact on the student experience."



I came to Amman, Jordan with few expectations — to improve my Arabic, receive marriage proposals in exchange for many camels and escape the frigid Middlebury winter. Well, *mufaja-a*! Surprise!

Even after three months, it still takes local people some time to realize that I am speaking Arabic and not Greek. *Mufaja-a!* I have not received any marriage proposals, though I was offered a puppy during a trip to Egypt solely because the 10-year-old who asked for my hand did not own any camels.

Unbeknownst to me, Jordan is cold in the winter. Being raised in the tropics and making assumptions about Middle Eastern latitudes, I did not bring a jacket. *Mufaja-a!* That will teach me not to move to another country without doing adequate research again.

Mufaja-a has been a good way to describe the Middlebury program in Amman. It has all been one big mufaja-a after another – from the HIV test we did not know we would be required to take, to the emergency meeting held one month into the program in which we were informed that our building was implicated in a prostitution ring. (Oh, so that's what all those Saudi men were doing hanging out by our building!) Mufaja-a!

After receiving clean bills of health from the Jordanian Health Department and moving into new housing without "ladies of ill-repute," the cold weather remained a problem for me. For a while I went around wearing four layers of sweaters, but last Friday I succumbed and took a cab down to one of the souks to buy an oversized jacket.

Three Middlebury friends and I, all girls, piled into a cab and spoke in broken Arabic for the duration of the ride, the driver smoking and eyeing us through the rear-view mirror the whole time. The concept of smokefree zones has not caught on in the Middle East, as we smelled like we had spent an extended period of time in a bar by the time we got out.

Cab rides have proven to be some of my more peculiar experiences abroad. Sometimes the driver will show us pictures of his family, sometimes he will decide that he would rather steer with his knees instead of his hands, sometimes he will stop to buy coffee on the side of the road and sometimes he will ask us if we are married or if we have "become women yet." With good reason, "none of your business" and "shame on you, I am like your sister" were some of the first expressions we learned in colloquial Arabic.

I'm not going to miss the taxi cab situations, nor will I miss the neighborhood men who sit around all day trying to figure out who is a prostitute and who is not. In some ways, I am ready to return to the U.S. where there are insulated houses, Christmas trees and functioning clothes dryers.

Even if I cannot feel it now, I am sure that in a few months *mufaja-a* will hit me once again, brought on by something completely unexpected. If Jordan has taught me anything, it is that this is how these things work.

SGA UPDATE

CGA IIDNATE SGA works to provide fitness options on campus

By Ben Anderson

The Nov. 20 meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA) was devoted to two pieces of groundbreaking legislation, the Pass/D/Fail Resolution and the You-Power Bike Room Resolution.

An email was sent to all students urging them to attend the SGA meeting, and about 10 students came to watch.

The voting procedure began with Senator Michael Polebaum '12, the sponsor of the Pass/D/Fail resolution, reading through the bill's contents. Afterward, the discussion was opened so that other senators could add friendly amendments. However, the only changes made were either grammatical or minor and non-substantial.

The SGA then voted on the resolution, passing it with a unanimous vote.

Next, Senior Senator Brittany Gendron '12 presented the YouPower Bike Room Resolution that she worked on with Astrid Schanz-Gargbassi '12. This resolution proposes the creation of a gym in the Freeman International Center and appropriates SGA funds in order to buy and install the equipment needed and hire monitors. The room would have a collection of exercise bikes

that also generate electricity that the SGA would then sell back to the College.

The two First-Year Senators, Rana Abdelhamid '15 and Danny Zhang '15, voiced concerns about the amendment in the resolution that would repeal money allocated in the Ross Gym Annex Bill. Gendron recognized that this section of the resolution may trouble some students, but she said that she hoped this resolution would essentially replace the Ross Gym Bill. The Ross Gym Bill, she said, has been having trouble getting off the ground and the Bike Room Resolution gives students a larger workout space that is also environmentally conscious. The resolution passed with only one vote against it.

At the Dec. 4 meeting of the SGA, Senator Zhang motioned to start an Ad-Hoc Committee on student financial aid for international students. After a recent forum on socio-economic diversity on campus, Zhang believes that it is necessary to explore financial aid issues for international students. Senator Gendron suggested expanding the Ad-Hoc Committee to researching socio-economic issues for all students; however, it was agreed that it should be a separate committee. Zhang's Ad-Hoc Committee was

ratified without resistance.

Next, the SGA Cabinet gave an update on the status of past legislation. They urged all senators to direct students in need of project money to go/funding, a new site established to handle funding requests from students independent of campus organizations.

Regarding the Bike Room Resolution, the Cabinet also said that the College is now reluctant to purchase the electricity generated by the spinning bikes. They cited a possible miscommunication between Old Chapel and the SGA and assured the group that they are planning to meet with Vice President for Administration Tim Spears to discuss the future of the resolution (see above article).

The Cabinet also mentioned that they are currently polling various professors to measure where they stand on the future of the Pass/D/Fail resolution. Recca urged all of the senators to speak with their professors in order to garner support for this legislation.

Also, the Cabinet is considering dropping the current contract with *USA Today* once it expires. Instead, they plan to purchase more copies of *The New York Times*.

College hosts AIDS awareness day

By Kelsey Collins

On Dec. 1, the College's GlobeMed chapter and the Chellis House collaborated to promote World AIDS Day on campus in order to raise awareness about the disease. HIV/AIDS affects 33.3 million people worldwide and an estimated two million people die from the disease each year.

World AIDS Day is held annually on Dec. 1 as an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against the disease, and is a day to raise awareness and become more educated about HIV/AIDS. While World AIDS Day has been internationally recognized as a global health day since 1998, this is the first year that it has been actively observed at the College.

Members of GlobeMed wrote facts and statistics about the disease on sidewalks and in classrooms throughout the campus, and students were encouraged to wear red t-shirts and ribbons to show their support.

In addition, GlobeMed and Chellis House held several events in honor of the day, including screenings of Robert Bilheimer's *A Closer Walk* and David Weissman's documentary *We Were Here*. Assistant Professor of Economics Erick Gong gave a lecture entitled "The Economics of the HIV/AIDS epidemic."

Gong's lecture on the economics of HIV in sub-Saharan Africa was the most well-attended event of the day, drawing



ANNA CLEMENTS

Hannah Judge '12.5, Co-President of Globemed, helped plan World AIDS Day.

over 80 students and faculty members. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 12 percent of the world's population, yet those infected with HIV/AIDS make up 68 percent of the global HIV/AIDS population.

Gong's talk sought to explain why the region bears such a disproportionate burden of what he called "the most dramatic epidemic since the black plague." He framed the issue in economic terms, and discussed how income shocks to rural women could lead to changes in sexual behaviors that might further contribute to

the pandemic.

He suggested that the market for transactional sex is larger in this region due to the frequency of income shocks caused by droughts in agricultural communities and a lack of coping mechanisms found elsewhere around the world, such as formal social safety nets, insurance or loans. According to Gong, this, coupled with a high prevalence of HIV infection, is a possible driving force behind the rising HIV rates in the region.

Sam Peisch '13, co-president of the Col-

lege's GlobeMed chapter, said the large turnout at Gong's lecture showed the College's growing interest in the initiatives of GlobeMed and similar global health organizations.

"What's underscored in the campus's involvement on World AIDS Day is the growing interest in the field of global and public health," Peisch said. "It was illuminating to see an economist's take on HIV/AIDS when it is so commonly debated as a sociopolitical issue, which I think speaks to the multidisciplinary approach the world must take to both mitigate the current impact of HIV/AIDS and to combat its spread."

Sa

inr

int

Tim

sity

mai

abu

tion

ies

par

and

Sar

vol

tion

wit

spo

ES

int

m

ca

Both Peisch and co-president Hannah Judge '12.5 expressed satisfaction with the student body's response to the events, and the discussions stimulated as a result of the talks.

"We wanted everyone on campus to be aware of the day, and get people thinking about the disease," said Judge. "I think most people know what HIV/AIDS is, but might not know that the specific statistics are so shocking. We weren't taking any donations throughout the day — the point was to raise awareness and get people thinking."

She added, "We want people to take an awareness day like World AIDS Day as a starting point, though. It shouldn't just be that we're thinking about the disease one day a year."

LessMeat Monday aims to educate students

By Charlotte O'Herron

On Nov. 28, Ross and Proctor dining halls implemented a trial run of LessMeat Monday, an initiative launched by a group of Environmental Economics students as part of a project to raise awareness on the environmental impacts of consuming meat. The experiment wasviewed as controversial by some, who considered LessMeat Monday to be an unjustified imposition of a dietary choice.

Each dining hall only served one meat option, replacing the second meat option with an extra vegetarian dish.

The community-based project in Professor of Economics Jon Isham's class was led by Samantha Strom '13, Kathryn Bostwick '12, Joe Damron '13 and Anna Thurston '13. Students in the class partnered with local businesses to achieve an environmentally friendly goal.

"I realized that one way to teach economics is to have students actually try to be economists right away," Isham said of his motives behind the assignment.

Strom, Bostwick, Damron and Thurston sought to make dining hall food more environmentally friendly and met with Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette to discuss how this could happen. LessMeat Monday emerged as an option that was both feasible in expenditure and implementation.

Last year the Organic Garden conducted a survey to gauge whether or not students would be in favor of Meatless Mondays. Of the 880 students who responded, 52 percent responded favorably.

Strom, Bostwick, Damron and Thurston decided to pursue LessMeat Mondays to raise awareness of the environmental benefits of a vegetarian diet. Meat

production contributes to greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, water pollution and biodiversity loss. They aimed to provide students with information about the impacts of eating meat to promote conscious dietary choices.

"The hope is to reduce demand through this education," Strom said. "Is one meal with a little bit less meat really going to make that much of a difference to the environment? It will make some, but the big change will be awareness."

Biette, although willing to help the students with their experiment, anticipated that many students would oppose the change, as meat makes up an integral part of most diets.

"[LessMeat] Monday takes out a really important piece of the diet to a lot of people," Biette said.

To reduce opposition, the students and Biette opted to have less meat on Monday, as opposed to no meat at all.

"We didn't actually limit the choice that much," Strom said. "There was still a meat option that was different for Proctor and Ross."

The dining service's responsiveness to

the students' proposal serves as a testimony to their willingness to participate in student-led initiatives.

"We are always willing to work with

any educational portion of the college,"
Biette said. "This was educational, so we decided to do it."

He also noted that the dining halls do

not serve any meat on some nights, such as cultural theme dinners, and receive no complaints.

As students walked into the dining

As students walked into the dining halls, they were greeted by posters explaining LessMeat Mondays. Biette sent out an email earlier that evening to notify students of the experiment.

Strom, Bostwick, Damron and Thurston, along with members of the Organic Garden and Sunday Night Group, wore taped signs and handed out information pamphlets. They encouraged students to speak to them directly, as opposed to the dining hall staff, when raising questions or concerns.

As expected, some students expressed opposition and responded angrily to the students handing out information sheets.

"It's not necessarily about LessMeat Monday, it's about tolerance," Biette said.

Many of those who were opposed to LessMeat Monday resented forced dietary restrictions on the entire student body based on beliefs held by a smaller group of students, arguing that the initiative was presented in a way that alienated meat eaters.

Tyler Sandoval '13 is opposed to having more LessMeat Mondays in the future.

"I just don't think it's fair to impose that sort of dietary restriction on the entire college to prove a point," Sandoval said. "[As] someone who is allergic to gluten, eliminating meat from the menu severely limits my options."

Sandoval also argued that condemning meat is a limited approach to pursuing sustainable eating habits, stating that corn and soy products are just as bad for the environment. Other opponents argued that there are ways to reduce the impact of food on the environment without restricting dietary options, such as by buying more local foods.

Almost 1,000 students responded to the survey that was sent out after LessMeat Monday. Sixty-three percent said they would support having more LessMeat Mondays in the future, yet



LessMeat Mondays provided students more vegetarian options in the Proctor.

many of the students' comments in the survey were negative and expressed confusion.

"When I read a lot of confused comments on the survey, I wished that people had asked me questions when I was there at dinner so that I could have clarified our project," Strom said.

"I'm glad the project sparked a lot of interest and in some cases disagreement," said Isham. "The point is not that eating a little less meat on that Monday night significantly reduced our carbon emissions, it's getting people to reflect on their own behavior. It was a really good learning opportunity."

It is unknown whether or not there will be another LessMeat Monday in the future.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG NOVEMBER 28- DECEMBER 4, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/29/11	1:35 a.m.	Alarm	Carbon Monoxide	110 South Main	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/30/11	9:45 a.m	Agency Assist Other	Maine State Police	Off Campus Location	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
12/02/11	unknown	Vandalism	Graffiti	Forrest Hall	REFERRED TO COMMONS DEAN
12/03/11	1:15 a.m.	Vandalism	College building	Allen Hall	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
12/03/11	12:17 a.m.	Alcohol Citation	Non-Student	Ridgeline	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
12/03/11	12:30 a.m.	Collision	Vehicle Damaged	0 lot	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
12/04/11	3:33 a.m.	Fire	Fire at Heating Plant	Service Building	REFERRED TO RISK MANAGEMENT

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS FROM ACROSS

WS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

S THE NATION

COMPILED BY NATE SANS

Sandusky maintains innocence in *Times* interview

In an interview with The New York Times, Former Pennsylvania State University assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky maintained his innocence regarding child abuse charges by stating, "These allegations are false ... I didn't do those things." However, he did describe unclear boundaries between himself and the children taking part in the Second Mile Foundation, a charity aimed to help underprivileged children and their parents, which was founded by Sandusky in 1977. Sandusky acknowledged giving money and gifts to the children involved in the charity, which the prosecution believes were used to establish trust with the children. Sandusky also said that he and fired head coach Joe Paterno never spoke about any suspected misconduct. An ESPN legal analyst said that Sandusky's interview might be his defense's attempt to portray him as a generous mentor with an unclear understanding of traditional boundaries between adults and children.

- Huffington Post

Corporate marketing on campus raises concerns

Colleges and universities are concerned about the growing presence of corporate marketing on campus. Companies such as Red Bull and Monster, both producers of popular energy drinks, commonly recruit students to serve as "brand ambassadors." A brand ambassador typically receives a small stipend in return for handing out free samples and increasing student awareness of the product. Some administrators worry about this practice because the presence of marketing may violate "pouring rights," a college's contract to provide drinks from only one company. Conflict with existing solicitation policies is also a concern regarding this form of marketing. Additionally, administrators fear the negative effects that consumerism may have on college students who are unaware that they are subjects of a marketing ploy. Negative effects of consumerism include stress and debt.

— Chronicle of Higher Education

Asian-American college applicants hide ethnicity

In attempts to avoid discrimination, some Asian-American college applicants with only one Asian parent choose not to check the "Asian" box or offer no information about their race. Some applicants who make this choice claim that the stereotype of Asian students as higher achievers makes gaining admission to top schools more difficult. Former Yale admissions officer Kara Miller said, "Asian kids know that when you look at the average SAT for the school, they need to add 50 or 100 to it. If you're Asian, that's what you'll need to get in."

Critics claiming discrimination against Asian-American applicants point to the fact that top colleges with raceblind admissions often have double the percentage of Asians than do Ivy League universities.

- USA Today

Borah presents to U.N. climate panel

By Elizabeth Fouhey

On Nov. 28 in Durban, South Africa, Abigail Borah '13 gave an address to United Nations negotiators at the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on behalf of the International Youth Climate Movement (IYCM), calling for an increase in transparency and forceful verification of the reduction of deforestation.

UNFCCC was founded in 1992 with the goals of solving the problem of rising greenhouse gas emissions and to better understand the effects of the emissions on developing nations.

Jon Isham, Professor of Economics at the College, described the program of UN-

"It's a gathering of forces who are all trying to affect our future as it pertains to runaway effects of climate change," he said

Borah first encountered UNFCCC at the Sunday Night Group her first year at the College. The College's legacy of emphasis on the importance of climate change issues further pushed Borah to get involved.

Borah said, "While the connection between a small liberal arts college nestled in the mountains of Vermont and the international climate negotiations may seem unexpected, I think our emphasis on global education through language education, international studies and a geographically diverse community show the connection is not so surprising."

Borah was able to get involved with UNFCCC through her work with SustainUS, a national youth organization that allows young people to get involved in the movement against climate change on an international level.

Louise Yeung, a member of the SustainUS Steering committee, as well as a fellow delegate in Durban said, "Providing the opportunity for youth like Abigail to experience the UN process firsthand and gain nuanced understandings of complex policy issues is the first step to building the next generation of environmental leaders."

Borah, along with 13 other SustainUS youth delegates, is working with other young people from all over the world. They are trying to urge leaders to adopt a fair and legally binding treaty on climate change. This global collaboration sets an example that Borah hopes the negotiators will follow.

"Bilateral cooperation such as the U.S. and China youth collaboration as well as policy-specific working groups on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology transfer or human rights, show that even though we come from different cultures, we can work together to create articulate policy recommendations and radical actions," she said.

At the conference, speaking to negotiators from over 194 countries, Borah, as an official representative of international youth, was able to take advantage of the rare opportunity for non-negotiators to express their ideas and opinions to the negotiations.

Borah's address, an intervention at the plenary session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SB-STA), focused on the youth organization's desire for more stringent policies to further ensure the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

In her speech Borah said, "The youth are committed to reducing global forest carbon emissions. Forests are the lungs of

the world and our greatest defense against climate change."

Borah continued, "The success of robust [measuring, reporting and verification] provisions by SBSTA will dictate [its] effectiveness."

In addition to the calls to further prevent deforestation, Borah emphasized a need for more access to information and highlighted the growing importance of youth and indigenous forest-dwelling people in matters of climate change.

In response to the UNFCCC negotiations, Louise Yeung said, "SustainUS fully supports Abigail's address ... We, along with the Youth Constituency at the climate talks, see this as a critical aspect of successful implementation for deforestation and other climate strategies and hope that presenting our perspective in official forums reminds negotiators that their decisions will have lasting impacts on future generations."

In response to Borah's address, Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben said, "It's awfully good to see Middlebury students continuing to play such a big role in international events. I'm pretty sure that if you took a poll at Durban you'd find more Middlebury graduates per capita than any other school. They're all doing their best to overcome the power of the fossil fuel industry, which is still blocking change."

Isham was similarly encouraging toward the active role that the youth and students are playing, citing the importance of the expansion of the power of young leaders in the climate change movements.

"If you are strategic enough and mobilize enough people, you can affect change,"

Team denies graffiti involvement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

possibility of fingerprinting, Wells said the team contacted a College rugby alumnus who now works as an attorney.

"MPD would have no legal bounds to do that [to fingerprint the entire team]," he said.

While the case is still open, Mogerley said the rugby team has not been contacted since the initial interview with Sirkia.

Wells expressed doubts regarding the involvement of Middlebury students in the involvement

"Middlebury students are of the highest caliber and they find better things to do than spray paint graffiti on a wall identifying themselves."

If anyone has tips or leads on the case, contact Officer Neil Mogerley at nmogerley@middleburypolice. The MPD will grant anonymity.





ANNA CLEMENT

The Main Street Bridge, pictured above, had the word "ginger" spray painted onto it.

1SEE 2SAY

3SEND SOMETHING

DOYOUHAVEA
TIP OR AN IDEA
FOR A STORY?

GO/THECAMPUS

7L F

ALKING IN A MARKET WONDERLAND



Fifty vendors decked the halls of the Middlebury Municipal Gym to sell their products at the annual Holiday Farmers' Market.

"It's all high

quality, not

high end. That's

the nice thing

about it. It's not

three of four

products."

AMNA CLEMENTS

By Devin MacDonald

On Saturday, Dec. 3, downtown Middlebury featured a host of holiday-themed events. The fourth annual Holiday Farmers' market was held in the Middlebury Municipal Gym. With a range of products from fresh produce and wine to handbags made out of recycled skirts and neckties, the market offered homemade goods from across Addison County.

The farmers' market is usually held in Marbleworks every Saturday throughout the fall. Yet Saturday marked a special event not only because of the impending holidays, but because the logistics of the market were different. Vendors that sell at the Middlebury market all summer got priority for places in the gym, and after these slots were filled, any Vermont vendor with homemade products was

invited to participate. The market was bigger, offering a wider variety of items to inspire gift-giving and celebration this holiday season.

Pam Taylor has been the manager of the Middlebury Farmers' Market for five years running. In the past, the holiday market took place the weekend before Thanksgiving, but because of the warm weather and poor timing this year, the event was moved.

"I approached the board to get the date changed," said Taylor. "Having it the same weekend as a Very Merry Middlebury and all the other holiday events fit perfectly with the spirit of our market.'

The change was drastic. This year was the most successful holiday market yet. There were over 50 vendors packed into the gym and a steady flow of customers all day.

But according to Taylor, the products, even more so than the large turnout, really shone this year.

"It's all high quality, not high end, " she said. "That's the nice thing about it. It's not three or four hundred dollar products. The price range is good and there is a home-spun quality that is made for

Deb Tier, owner of Vermont Purseauality, offers her handmade bags both at the normal and at the holiday markets. Her bags are made of recycled clothing and are well-crafted, while retaining certain traits of their former shape and use. A purse made out of a skirt still had the same pleating, and another bag made with a tie used the end as a clasp. Tier also makes play clothes, coin purses and other useful items, all with recycled clothing.

Tier enjoys the holiday market because "there's a lot more space, having a roof over your head is nice and it's warm in here." She was a fan of the wide range of products available, especially because people from outside Middlebury were offered the chance to sell their goods.

"There are a lot of new things here we don't normally see," said Tier.

Dr. Elizabeth Davidson, who lives and works as a chiropractor in Middlebury, makes a point of visiting each farmers market.

> "I love to eat locally and it's great to know who makes the stuff and exactly where it's grown," she said Over time she has gotten to know

every vendor at the market, about half of those present on Saturday. "It's a wonderful way to get to know

people in the community," said David-

hundred dollar Lynn Gerow sold baked goods ranging from stuffed breads to very popular sticky buns. She is a vendor PAM TAYLOR in Middlebury on Wednesdays and in MANAGER OF THE MIDDLEBURY Brandon on Fridays.

FARMERS' MARKET 'This is my first time at the holiday market," she said. "It's going really well; there's been a steady crowd all day.'

Although the Holiday market has come and gone, the Middlebury market isn't going anywhere. Every Saturday through Christmas from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the winter market will be held in American Flatbread. After Christmas, when produce vendors leave for the winter season, the market will be open on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

"Because we're on everyone's radar and people are used to coming to us, when we open in the spring it's easy," said Taylor. "We're already there, we already have our customers because they stuck with us all winter.'

The winter market featured bread, eggs, organic





Pam Taylor was pleased with her decision to move the date of the Holiday Farmers' Market this year.

meat and cheese, as well as pottery, quilting and knitted items. The goal is to offer as much as possible through the long winter months, while making sure that the people of Middlebury don't forget about the market.

Taylor believes College students have the opportunity to become vendors. Anyone who has a product to sell, as long as it is hand-made, can participate. Taylor has hosted students before and has noticed their success.

'We love seeing College kids down here," said Taylor. "We can be a springboard for your busi-

The winter market is a great way to be a part of the community, support local vendors and take tasty treats and warm knitted hats back to dorm rooms to help make it though the cold winter months. For more information, call Taylor at (802) 388-0178.

FARM FRESH



BY RACHEL PORTER

Lucy Orgill is an advocate for the rights of dairy farmers, and she has traveled all the way from Hampshire, England, to explore this issue in America. An exchange student from the University of Nottingham, Orgill said that her interest in farming began when she "started to notice that a lot of my friends were struggling."

Growing up in an area surrounded by dairy farms, Orgill noticed first-hand the financial burdens that many farmers face. After reading Eric Schlosser's Fast Food Nation, she began to appreciate the struggles of English farmers and noted that these struggles may be attributed to the economic system in place.

Orgill has observed fundamental differences between the British and the American approach to dairy farming. She said that while Americans are comfortable drinking milk produced by large feedlot farms, the English do not feel the same. This reluctance has led many English farmers to turn down opportunities for efficient and cost-effective production. While the average herd of dairy cows in England is about 120, milk operations within the United States can reach upwards of 2,000 cows.

Orgill insists that the U.K.'s commitment to small-scale farming is not at-

It is crucial that people realize farming tiveness of larger problems are "not black and white; it is more nuanced."

tributed to the farmers' dairy ignorance of the increased effecoperations. After talking with members of the National Farmers Union who came to the United States to research feedlot farms, she said,

"They cannot deny that it is more efficient." Why then do English farmers continue to maintain small dairy farms?

According to Orgill, "How England looks is defined a lot by cattle." Small-scale farms are the key to the U.K.'s image of rolling hills and idyllic countryside. Should farmers switch to primarily feedlot farms, this landscape would be destroyed. Orgill said when Liecestershire proposed building a large farm there was heavy protest. The central argument of protesters was that feedlot farms "work in America, but they won't work here."

It seems that due to the commitment to small-scale farming, English consumers would not hesitate to pay more per pint of milk in an effort to support local farmers.

Unfortunately, though, this is not the case. English consumers are well aware that milk is cheaper in America. Orgill said that while they enjoy small farms, "There is this kind of psychological thing in people's mind where they think that milk could be cheaper."

"In that way there is kind of like a pressure," she said.

This pressure drives prices down and often leaves the farmers in a situation where "it is very hard to make a profit."

"If milk prices aren't protected they will have to expand," said Orgill.

In Orgill's opinion, it is crucial that people realize farming problems are "not black and white; it is much more nuanced." Despite this complexity, Orgill remains optimistic.

"I think there is a middle ground to be had," she said.

Whether it be midsized farms or increased understanding between farmers and consumers, she thinks the key is "not to have extremes" from either party.

When Orgill returns home she will complete her dissertation comparing American and English dairy farming models.

ONE IN 8,700

Where the personalitites of Middlebury proper are celebrated

Doctor

By Charlotte Gardiner

A year and a half ago, Dr. Elizabeth Davidson and her daughter, Elena, moved to Middlebury from Montgomery, Vt. A chiropractor, Davidson is the owner of Clear Connection Chiropractic, located at 152 Maple Street. The doctor and her daughter sought to move to a town larger than Montgomery's 1,000-person population.

"I liked the feel of Middlebury," said Davidson, who thought about moving to Montpelier, too. "I wanted a place with educational opportunities for my daughter and I wanted to stay in Vermont so she

could be close to family. The art scene, including Middlebury's theater and music, attracted the chiropractor as well. After graduating from Johnson State College in Vermont and later Sherman College of Chiropractic in South Carolina, Davidson has been practicing for five

"One morning I woke up and the only thought in my head was I should be a chiropractor," she said. "It is a job where I can help make the world a better place.

Davidson especially enjoys helping her clients live healthier and happier lives, and aiding all to become better citizens and parents. Elena, her sidekick, is often in the office. She greets patients at the door and teaches adults hopscotch as they wait for their appointments.

The chiropractor said many of her clients initially come in with a backache. She realigns their bodies by gently massaging pressure points, and prides herself on the

fact that she employs no twisting or cracking in the ELIZABETH DAVIDSON process.

"It is all about the brain and body communicating," she said of her job. "You need to keep the brain system healthy because if

that is healthy, everything else is too.' She examines the nervous system and crafts ways to protect the spine and spinal cord. This includes noting any differences on the right versus the left side of the body, and looking for areas where nerves may be

pinched or irritated. Davidson works with many children, and especially with newborn babies.

"Obviously newborns are not complaining about their backs," she said, adding that she has never seen a baby that does not need an adjustment. "But being born puts a big stress on the nervous system physically, mentally and chemically.

Davidson urges all to lead low-stress lives by eating healthy foods free of chemicals and constantly stretching the body. She believes her soft and tender technique helps teach people how to manage and take care of the stress they place on their nervous system. If she simply cracked backs, she feels little would be learned.

Developing a close relationship with her clients is important to Davidson. She said her favorite part of the job is getting to work with babies. Yet she also enjoys progressive examination: a patient will come into

the office and together Davidson and her client will devise a plan of care to help the individual adopt a healthier lifestyle. About three months later, the patient comes back to the chiropractor and the pair will redo the exercises and adjustments performed 12 weeks prior.

"I love to see what has changed, especially when I am working with children,"

In addition to her work in Middlebury, Davidson is also part of a group of about 100 other chiropractors and their families. Known as the New Renaissance, the doctor says all members are passionate people wanting world change. Together, they have built a humanitarian program, Love Has No Color, that seeks to bring health and hope to Native Americans, particularly the children.

These children are caught in a cycle of hopelessness out on the reservation," she said. "We are working to change that through all kinds of programs."

The group works with Native Americans living on the Fort Peck Reservation in eastern Montana. Davidson said this is the reservation most in need in the country, boasting the worst health ratings of anywhere in the United States. The area faces a 75 percent unemployment rate, a 40 percent high school dropout rate, one-third of the middle-school students are sick with a sexually transmitted disease and in a school of only 160 students, 20 attempted suicide last year, while another five successfully did so.

"It is really awful out there and we are really trying to make changes," Davidson said.

This year, the New Renaissance gathered thousands of Christmas presents and many of the group members are traveling to Montana to deliver the gifts. In the past, the group has also

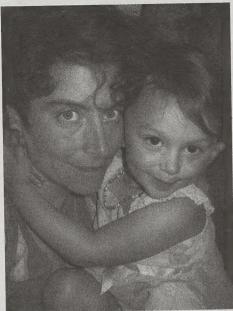
refurbished the reservation's movie theater, built a health clinic and is now hoping to employ a chiropractor on the reservation

Davidson is especially excited about the new scholarship program in place. Now a senior in high school, one of the girls from the reservation will be attending college for the next four years and upon graduation, will enter graduate school, training to become a chiropractor.

"We also hold a kids event over the summer," said Davidson. "The children build confidence and trust, and mostly just love. We connect with them and we show them we care. They think we are not going to come back because so many have not in the

past, but we keeping coming.' Davidson and Elena enjoy frequenting the Farmers' Market and the doctor values knowing where her food is coming from and who is growing it. She feels so lucky to be in Middlebury and hopes all will come visit her office, and she promises an eclectic variety of music.

"I love making mixes," she said, citing e artists as the Jazz Man-



COURTESY: ELIZABETH DAVIDSO

Dr. Davidson and her "assistant" Elena believe in relieving stress placed on the nervous system.

dolin Project, Grace Potter, Stevie Wonder and Led Zeppelin. "I have been listening to a lot of Natalie MacMaster because I went to her concert last Thursday."

Davidson hopes College students will take advantage of her wellness seminars each Tuesday night from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at her office. In these, she speaks about what health is and is not and how wellness fits into making the world a better place.

We are all tricked into thinking health is the absence of something," she said. "We think if we are not sick, then we must be healthy, but health is the presence of something.

The seminars discuss how we are each born to be healthy and that our innate intelligence is what keeps us alive.

"All those things that your body does without you thinking about it - food digesting, blood pumping," Davidson said. "It is the amazing, beautiful innate intelligence inside of us that makes us alive."

For the chiropractor, this is the whole basis for why she lives her life as she does and why she thinks it is vital that everyone have healthy nervous systems. If we touch our leg, for example, it is the nervous system that allows us to make this movement and feel the touch.

"Our bodies take care of everything all the time that you do not have to think about it," she said. "Chiropractic keeps you healthy from the inside out. When you are healthy you feel and think better, so you make better decisions, are nicer to people, are more productive, have more energy and contribute more. The more healthy people we have, the better world we will have and that is why I do what I do."

She summed up the main idea of chiropractic as healthier people yielding a healthier planet.

GINGERBREAD HOUSES GALORE





The Vermont Folklife Center came alive on Friday, Dec. 2 for the 13th annual Gingerbread Exhibit and Competition. The festivities will continue through Dec. 21. All are welcome and encouraged to come check out the tasty festive creations. Many traditional houses were featured in addition to innovative gingerbread interpretations such as a sculpted lighthouse.

decke

3, wit

by loc

displa

tival o

Johns

on W

holida

boo

sa

an

the

ca

2

ILANA

CO-DIR

AND O

FESTIN

thou

com

orat

cate

Teahouse steeped in foreign flavor LOCAL

By Kaylen Baker

Stone Leaf Teahouse, although located in the heart of Middlebury's Marble Works, feels as far away from the College campus as the other side of the world. Luckily, you do not have to dig a hole all the way to China to reach it. Owner John Wetzel, who opened the teahouse in June 2009, makes that trip instead.

This two-story teahouse effuses an East Asian ambiance reminiscent of the teas' origins - Taiwan, China, Nepal, Vietnam, Japan and India. A soft glow, emanating from little straw lanterns on low wooden tables, illuminates the small square paintings hung on the walls in minimalist fashion. It provides just enough light for a solitary drinker to read a book or just enough darkness to cast a cozy, seductive hue on the face of a lover. I was seated on a cushioned floor stool on the second level, and my eyes roamed across the crisscrossed black metal beams decorated with Christmas lights. They landed on unique objects, like a large curl of tree bark pinned to the wall and a plush Persian rug.

"The art and general setting take you to a different place," said Gunit Gill '12. "Being on campus, you're always surrounded by a lot of students and you don't really have space for yourself to think.'

Her friends, each sipping their own tea,

"It's a nice place to come with friends and talk for hours," said Jonathon Fall '13. "You really can. I'd say part of the reason why is it's not so crowded. It's got a relaxing atmosphere, there's no sort of rush.'

Of course, what is more alluring than the charming, mysterious ambiance of Stone Leaf is the vast selection of tea itself. The teas range from green and white to oolong, black and tisane, and are organized by region on the menu.

"I like my tea flavor," said Anil Menon '13. "It has a hint of rice cracker."

Nethra Venkatesh '13 felt similarly.

"I really like the cutlery, the teapots, the cups," he added.

The four friends shared a large glass teapot filled with hot water, but each tried a different tea. They were served on a tray containing a teapot with tea inside, a cup, a pitcher and a metal tea strainer. The tea trays are part of Gongfu Tea service, used mainly for high grade oolong and puer tea.

"I've seen a variety of teas served when I've come," said Gunit. "Each tea comes in its own pot - probably the type of pot corresponds to the tea's origin. I think they're each brewed specially, differently depending on what you get."

The group also ordered coconut mochi and dried fruit, among the small food items on the menu.

Perhaps you pose a pickier challenge - you only drink decaf, and can't stand

greens or infusions. Wetzel suggests the rooibos, a southern African herbal tea often served with milk like a black tea. It has a bit of a fermented flavor. He doubles the strength of the tea, so that the milk does not weaken the taste.

On first sip the flavor was subtle - it almost smelt stronger than it tasted, like a faint whiff of vanilla and a wet, earthy tang. The tea was poured from a clear pot into a round clear cup, the smooth reddish gold liquid splashing in a perfect arc, and the action of pouring felt therapeutic and beyond me, like déjà vu. The cup was clouded with milk and I gave it a swirl - it wanted to be drunk like wine.

While sipping, I took bites of the specially-selected Daily Chocolate, a dark candied tangerine slab and a salty caramel. Both were delicious and melted in my mouth with a swig of hot tea. I poured another cup. This one had the faint taste of almond. Each cup tasted fuller than the last, and on the fifth cup, I drained the milk like a greedy child gratified.

For Wetzel, it is not just the taste of tea that brings him satisfaction, it is the knowledge he continues to gain from running the shop that flavors his life. Tea brings together many of his different interests.

"Agriculture, history, modern culture - this is my study," he said. "Starting this teahouse has been like my own post graduate studies.

Wetzel, originally from New Paltz, N.Y., has come a long way in starting his own business. His first true experience tasting and learning about tea was at the Dobra Tea Room in Burlington.

'That was my first real time with tea like trying eight different types of green tea," he said.

After Dobra, Wetzel began farming organic vegetables, then worked at Lincoln Peak Winery and later at Vergennes Daily Chocolates, before he settled down and opened his own teahouse. Having experience in other artisan boutiques taught him how to run a small business, and also how to conduct business with other partners.

The hardest part for me was taking that leap," he said. "Many factors just fell into place.

Wetzel traveled to Asia, Vietnam and Taiwan in particular, before the shop opened. There he experienced the culture of tea at its richest and most ancient. He was able to meet cultivators and traders of tea, visit the tea farms and sample tea in different places, while riding through lush tropical valleys on a motorbike and stopping for tea samples along the way.

"It's like wine tasting in Napa Valley, or maybe more analogous to going to Burgundy, because it's so much a part of their history," he said.

It was on that very road trip that Wet-





Owner of Stone Leaf Teahouse John Wetzel travels the world tasting and buying tea for his local business.

zel met the man who was to become his tea

"I trust him," said Wetzel. "For me this whole business is about cultivating relationships, about trust, and I've been incredibly fortunate to make these kind of partners in Taiwan, China, Nepal, Japan

Wetzel looks for growers and brokers who can give him "really good tea" - not just for flavor, but tea free of pesticides and

"It's not in the culture there to hide the use of pesticides, so when you visit the farms you can see when they're using pesticides," he said. "You can see the runoff and the deforestation."

Most of the farms Wetzel buys from are small, allowing him to do business as close to the crop producers as possible, but certain teas, such as assam, come from larger plantation - a direct result of British colonialism - and in these cases, Wetzel only buys certified organic and tries to look for

Tea carries a spirituality for Wetzel, not in an overly zealous way, but "in its simplicity and it's universality"— in the same way it has carried and created spirituality to many people across the world ever since it has existed.

"Almost every culture drinks tea," said Wetzel. "It's the most drunk beverage in the world, and a part of so many cultures."

Christmas tree and wreath sale

Head to the Middlebury United Methodist Church on Friday and Saturday for a fundraiser, with everything you need for the holiday season. Locally grown balsam trees and wreaths will be available for purchase, along with a plethora of baked goods. There will be live music and hot chocolate for all to enjoy. Please visit http://www.middleburyumc.org/for more information. DEC. 9, 4 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Wildlife walk

Can you imagine a better way to start your morning than with the OCAS-MALT monthly wildlife walk? Josh Phillips will lead the group along shorter and longer routes, and point out birds and other wildlife along the way. Dress warmly and meet at the corner of Weybridge Street and Pulp Mill Bridge Road. Call (802) 388-1007 or (802) 388-6829 for more information. DEC. 10, 8 A.M. - 10 A.M.

Breakfast with Santa

The Holley Hall in Bristol will be adorned in red and green for its holiday community breakfast. For \$5, all are invited to chow down on pancakes and sausage, while sipping juice, coffee, milk and tea. Breakfast seatings will be at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Santa and Buddy the Elf will join the festivities, which also include carriage rides, arts and crafts and live music. Call (802) 453-5885 to reserve a spot. Proceeds will go to the Bristol Recreation Department Scholarship Fund. DEC. 10, 8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

Christmas bazaar

Time to start Christmas shopping, and no better way than to stop by the Hancock Town Hall/Church on Route 100 for its annual holiday sale. Hosted by the Community Church of Hancock and Granville, myriad presents will be sold. Donated items are much appreciated, and call (802) 767-9157 to coordinate a drop-off or pick-up. Lunch will also be served to all in attendance. If anyone is interested in selling at the bazaar, call (802) 767-3649 to rent a table. DEC. 10, 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Hot chocolate hut

If you haven't already taken advantage of the hot chocolate hut in town, located near the cannon, do so this Saturday. The tasty house displays festive decorations and 25-cent cups of hot chocolate that can be topped with whipped cream, peppermint sticks and marshmallows for no extra charge. Who can say no to that? DEC. 10, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Christmas cookie and craft sale

The Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church will turn into a holiday bakery this Saturday. Choose from Dutch pastries and among hundreds of cookies, candies and treats, to bring home to the family. DEC. 10, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M..

Live nativity in Weybridge

This Sunday the Weybridge Congregational Church will transform into a little town in Bethlehem, as the church puts on a live Nativity pageant. Behind the church you'll find the last place in town to sleep, where Mary, surrounded by live animals, has given birth to the newborn King. Even if you can't see the angels, you'll still hear the Christmas carols, while enjoying hot chocolate and donuts. In case of rain or snow, the event will be postponed until

> Dec. 18. DEC. 11, 5 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE







MARY MANLEY

The Middlebury-Vermont Train Club designed the train set displayed each year at the Henry Sheldon Museum holiday open house, an event which nearly 850 visitors came to this year to see.

By Amy Scanes-Wolfe

On Saturday, Dec. 3, nearly 850 visitors flocked to the Henry Sheldon Museum for its annual holiday open house. The museum is a monument to the eccentric Henry A. Sheldon, born in the mid-1800s, who devoted his life to collecting and storing historical artifacts.

This year's theme was, "A Child's Delight," and displays boasted items, like a 19th century sled and a miniature painted county fair.

Yet, the feature attraction of the holiday open house continues to be the elaborate train set designed by the Middlebury-Vermont Train Club. With tiny trains winding through mountain, village and farm landscapes, children especially were mesmerized. The newest addition to the train set was a changeable roadside billboard.

"This year the group is celebrating 25 years of trains," said museum coordinator Mary Manley.

Middlebury Union High School student Jacob Giles has been conducting trains for the museum since he was eight years old. On Saturday, he trained a representative of the next generation of train conductors.

Overall, the event was a great success. "It looks like we're going to have a re-

cord breaking open house," said Manley, who was pleased with the healthy turnout on Sunday as well.

The train exhibit and holiday displays will be up at the museum until Jan. 14.

AIDDLEBURY CELEBRATES WITH FESTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

By Charlotte Gardiner

The Town Hall Theater (THT) was decked with holiday spirit on Saturday, Dec. 3, with approximately 110 wreaths, created by local business and artists, which were displayed throughout the building. The Festival of Wreaths is sponsored by the Mary Johnson Children's Center, located in town on Water Street, and has become an annual holiday fundraiser.

The center, which provides early education programs to

children aged 18

years old, from

across Addison

its 19th annual

board members

saw a Festival of

Trees in another

state," said Ilana

Snyder, the co-

director for the

has been work-

ing there for 21

years. "We came

up with an adap-

tation, and start-

ed the event in

the high school

who

"One of our

County,

excited

event.

center,

was

about

"One of our board members months to five saw a Festival of Trees in another state. We came up with an adaptation and started the event in the high school cafeteria with 20 wreaths."

ILANA SNYDER CO-DIRECTOR FOR THE MARY JOHNSON CHILDRENS' CENTER AND ORGANIZER OF MIDDLEBURY'S FESTIVAL OF WREATHS

cafeteria with 20 wreaths. We got more and more support though.'

Snyder provides local business and companies with the wreaths, who then decorate them each as they please. Many businesses place merchandise and gift certificates on the wreaths. Throughout the day,

people wander in and around the festive green shrubs, making bids on any and all wreaths as part of the event's silent auction.

"We get our name out there, the businesses get their names out there," said Sny-

She said the children at the center helped drop off and pick up the wreaths throughout the past week.

Jackie Voluz '14 has worked at the center for two years. She felt the festival was an innovative event and hopes it will raise a lot of money for the center. A Staten Island native, Voluz had her eye on a few of the wreaths, and hoped to bring one back to the Russian House where she lives.

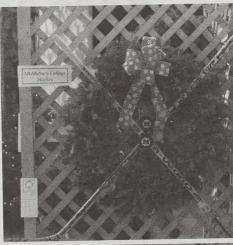
Mary Jane, a Middlebury native, has been attending the event for years. Her daughter used to work at the center, and Jane values the center's hard work and believes it offers a "tremendous service" to the community.

"I feel so inadequate," she said. "I feel lucky to put a bow on a wreath."

Jane sees the event as a win-win for all parties involved and calls the wreaths the "gift that keeps on giving" because of the merchandise and gift certificates, including ski lift tickets, placed on many.

Nestor Martinez '10, who is now an employee at Mary Johnson after working there for three years during his time at the College, said his favorite part of the week was taking the kids to pick up the wreaths.

The Festival of Wreaths was part of the town's Very Merry Middlebury celebration. A gingerbread exhibit at the Vermont Folklife Center and a holiday open house at the Henry Sheldon Museum, coupled with a hot chocolate hut (that sold 800 cups, which was double last years' sales), horse drawn wagon rides and visits from Santa kept crowds entertained throughout the day.







ANNA CLEMENTS AND CHARLOTTE GARDINER

A hot chocolate hut, located in Cannon Park, offers locals 25-cent cups of hot cocoa with whipped cream and peppermint sticks. The Festival of Wreaths was part of the town's A Very Merry Middlebury kick-off to December celebrations. Over 110 wreaths were donated in hopes of raising money for the Mary Johnson Children's Center.

ENJOY MYRIAD HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS ACROSS ADDISON COUNTY

Children holiday fun 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

All five-to-12-year-olds are welcome to taste cookies and join in holiday games at the Lincoln Library. For information, call (802) 453-2665.

Live Nativity 1 5 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Hot chocolate and donuts for all in attendance will complement the Weybridge Community Church's live Nativity pageant. Live animals and Christmas carols will be held in the "stable" behind the church.

Vergennes Xmas party 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Merlin the Magician and Santa, with a gift for all children, will meet at the Vergennes American Legion. The refreshments, activities, and entertainments are all free of cost.

Holiday fair 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Addison County artists offer pottery, hand-painted silk, honey, jewelry, art prints and herbal products in honor of the holidays.

Holiday tunes 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The Lincoln Library will come alive in reds and greens for a holiday sing-along. All are welcome and refreshments will be served. Call (802) 453-2665 for details.

Adult festive party 22 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Get your jingle bells ready and hang your mistletoe, join others at the Vergennes American Legion for dancing and a cash bar. A special holiday raffle for a handmade cedar chest will be a top prize for all in attendance.

Carol festival 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

For the 31st year, the Brandon Congregational Church hosts the Brandon Carol Festival. Gene Wilders's The Christmas Story will be the main feature, including singing, spoken word and jazz instruments.

Winterfest 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join others for hot chocolate at 5 p.m. before the Memorial Tree lighting at 6 p.m., followed by a fire with marshmallows and chestnut roasting. Santa will march with the band at 6:30 onto the town green. Horse-drawn sleigh rides will be available until 8:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., caroling will begin at the New Haven Congregational Church. For additional information, call (802) 453-5978.

Middlebury show choir 7 p.m.- 9 p.m.

"Steam Heat: A Holiday Extravaganza" will take the Town Hall Theater by holiday storm. Classic tunes for all are promised! Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12-years-old. Call (802) 382-9222 for information.

THE CAMPUS + THE INTERNET

MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

NEW, LOCAL, OPINIONS, FEATURES, SPORTS, ARTS & SCIENCES

IT'S ALL THERE. LOG ON TODAY.

OPINIONS

Race and gossip Do we talk about race enough

at Middlebury? Do we talk about it too much? Who doesn't talk about it enough, and why? How and where is

race discussed, and how and where is it not discussed?

The editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

There may be as many answers to these questions as students at Middlebury, and each viewpoint is valuable and legitimate. However, the recent

incident regarding the removal of an African American non-student from campus — and, more importantly, the reaction that this incident sparked - speaks to the fact that we, as a community, need a better forum for

discussing the role that race plays on our campus.

The official details of the incident in question can be found on page 1, and we invite you to form your own perspective and opinion about the incident based on the information provided. We as a newspaper do not wish to take a stance on whether or not this incident reflects "institutional racism"; rather, we are more interested in critically examining the reaction to the incident and the way it was discussed in the Middlebury community.

Charges of institutional racism first came via an anonymous post on The Gadfly, a selfproclaimed "medium for underrepresented voices" whose "aim is to disseminate radical viewpoints on the local to the global scale." The post, which has since been removed at the request of the author, garnered significant student outcry in the comments section. Many concurred with the author's claims that the incident was a manifestation of systemic institutional racism, while others challenged this notion by questioning why the incident occurred in the first place.

The conversation spread to Facebook, where the unverified information spun into a narrative that many felt showed incontrovertible evidence that racism is still

NOTES FROM

is a sports editor from

Damon Hatheway '13.5

THE DESK

London, England.

rearing its ugly head at Middlebury. When the facts were subsequently investigated, and Public Safety was given the chance to share its side of the story, the narrative became murkier; those following the story did not know what to believe.

Publications like The Gadfly serve important roles within communities by giving a space to viewpoints that are not necessarily found in the mainstream media. However, we urge the student body to be wary of how they consume news and developing stories, and to critically examine the ways in which information is disseminated. The Gadfly makes no claims that it is a source of news or factual information, nor are its authors always willing to attach their names to the views they put forth. This should, in itself, inform its readers as to how best to consume and process the information they read.

The heated and explosive nature of the reaction also speaks to the fact that issues of race are very much on the minds of many in the Middlebury community. Whether this specific incident represented institutional racism or not, it is impossible to deny that race continues to play a huge role in our peer relationships and our institution as a whole. That this incident sparked such a reaction only furthers our belief that there should be a better forum for racial discussions on our campus. It cannot fall solely to groups such as Distinguished Men of Color and administrators like Dean Shirley Collado to hold panels and discussions, nor is it productive to fire off anonymous and inflammatory statements as a means of bringing about legitimate debate. The former puts the onus of discussing race on the marginalized groups themselves and takes the responsibility out of the hands of those who are not forced to confront race every single day of their lives; the latter does an injustice to a critically important topic that deserves more thoughtfulness, more empathy and more accountability.

While we do not have a specific prescription to this problem, the excitement in our editorial meeting was palpable as we bounced around ideas of online forums in which Middlebury students can foster dialogue and debate about issues - not just about race - that are important to them. Or perhaps the part of the solution is to foster more informal dialogue about race - tonight, instead of rehashing your finals workload for all your friends, ask them what role they feel race plays on campus. The diversity of viewpoints within one group of friends may surprise you.

The Middlebury Campus **EDITORIAL BOARD**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Kara Shurmantine
MANAGING EDITOR Dana Walters **BUSINESS MANAGER** Ethan Schmertzler **NEWS EDITORS** Jess Berry, Kyle Finck, Adam Schaffer **OPINIONS EDITORS** Kevin Carpenter, Isabel Shaw, Ian Trombulak **SPORTS EDITORS** Alex Edel, Dillon Hupp, Katie Siegner, Damon Hatheway **LOCAL EDITORS** Kaylen Baker, Charlotte Gardiner, Devin MacDonald **FEATURES EDITORS** Cedar Attanasio, Shannon Fiedler, Allison Forrest ARTS AND SCIENCE EDITORS Santiago Azpurua-Borras, Deirdre Sackett, Emily Scarisbrick **PHOTOS EDITORS** Anna Clements, Paul Gerard, Andrew Podrygula, Jiayi Zhu **DESIGN EDITOR** Ian Stewart **SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR** Emily Pinto **ONLINE MANAGER** Lea Calderon-Guthe **ONLINE EDITORS** Hannah Bristol, Kaireth Kim,

The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury. edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Sarah Pfander, Ian Thomas

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year. except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

A rivalry of jumbo proportions

If you haven't read Ben Kochman's highly opinionated column from the Tufts Daily on why he believes Tufts and Middlebury should be rivals, or Middlebury's own Greg Dorris's '13 terrific and hilarious response to it on MiddBlog, it's probably not because, as Kochman suggested, you can't "hear [Kochman] through the two-foot pile of frozen crud" that supposedly surrounds Middlebury College. Instead, it's much more likely that, if you read it and had any reaction at all, it was, "Tufts? Really?" And while you wouldn't be wrong to question much of Kochman's logic — as well as to shrug off many of the

loosely-packed insults that he tried to hurl our direction - for why Tufts and Middlebury should be rivals, the basic point he tried so zealously to get across

is not so far from the truth. Rivalry in sports is good. Students packed Pepin Gymnasium last year during the men's basketball NCAA Final Four run. There was a particularly large crowd on hand when quasi-rivals

Amherst played, but as it is Middlebury does lack a true rival. Though our athletics are on par with, or, as is increasingly the case, better than those of Williams and Amherst, our petition to form a triumvirate of NESCAC powers has been largely rejected by the western Massachusetts schools. In the '80s members of the Hamilton and Middlebury football teams tried to create a rivalry between the teams, which they named the Rocking Chair Classic, but the series has rocked so many times in favor of the Panthers — 16 straight times, to be precise — that the rivalry is deader than Lindsay Lohan's acting career.

So why not Tufts? Well for one, shouldn't one team win nearly as much as the other one does in a rivalry? The Panthers hold a 158-134-13 record all-time over the Jumbos (among sports in which records are kept) - good for a .539 win have been elected to the Hall of Fame with winning percentages — we have beaten you every time.

lower than that. At one point the men's lacrosse team ran off a streak of 29 consecutive victories from 1969 to 2006 over the hapless Jumbos. The one sport where the Jumbos held some semblance of sustained success was in men's basketball, but the matchup has been so thoroughly dominated by the Panthers over the past five seasons that no student on this campus would seriously consider the Jumbos a credible rival on the hardwood.

For this rivalry to culminate, therefore - which would benefit both schools — it would be driven by a revival in Tufts athletics, because at the moment, a rivalry between the schools does not exist.

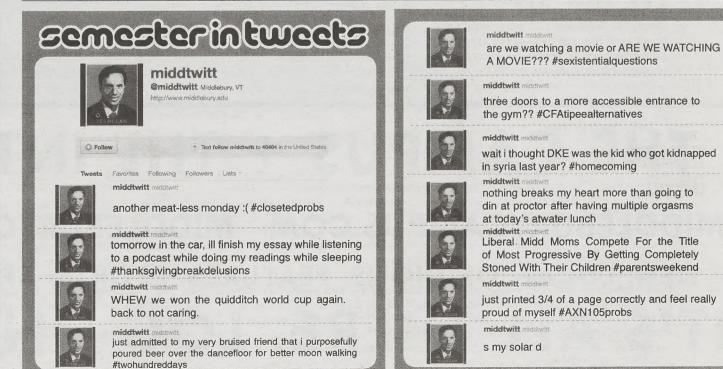
Nick Resor '12, the Panthers second-team All-NESCAC wide receiver and senior forward for the men's hockey team, who transferred from Tufts to Middlebury after his firstyear doesn't believe there's much history between the two schools. "I've never really thought of [Tufts] as a rival," he said. "I think it's always good to have a rival. It makes the game more fun, but better rivalries are when both teams are more even - you don't know who's going to win.'

Resor has never lost to Tufts in his career at Middlebury.

"When I was there we celebrated being .500, that was a good season for us, whereas at Middlebury it's a winning tradition you know you're going to be on a winning team," he said. "That played a big role in me coming to Middlebury."

So, Jumbos, if you want a rivalry, by all means, start one -Middlebury will reciprocate. In the meantime we will continue to let our success speak for itself. But if this rivalry fosters it will happen because at some point you rival us not just in how many witty remarks one column can hold but also in how many times you beat us on the court, ice, field, whatever. This isn't the first time Middlebury has been challenged, but if this rivalry lasts, you Jumbos have to do what our other "rivals" have failed to do: percentage. And while that may not seem all that much, coaches beat Middlebury. Because Turts, almost 60 percent of the time,

CORRECTION: In the Dec. 1 article "Investigating our Investments," Rhiya Trivedi '12.5 and Marcella Houghton '13 were misquoted. The correct versions of their statements are now available at www.middleburycampus.com. The Campus regrets the error.



Casino America

for the

and

An America run

by the Republican

equivalent of a

casino, where the

lucky few gain all

the rewards, and

where the house

always wins.

economy; a dollar

Someone once said that there are two types of Americans: those who are rich, and those who plan on getting there someday. Advertising and easy credit have left their mark on the American psyche and the American bank account; we'd rather have a BMW than spend time with our kids and we'd rather own an empty vacation home than have a job that actually allows the time to spend on

We measure the strength of our economy not in jobs nor in income

equality, but in raw growth of Gross Domestic Product LIBERALLY and in consumer confidence. dollar saved is

Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen '13.5 is from Canandaigua, N.Y.

spent is "healthy."

Therein lies the problem with the platform of the Democratic party: it's realistic, not aspirational. Congress cuts taxes on the wealthy again and

"bad"

borrowed

again without public outcry because so many people believe that, someday, despite all evidence to the Party is the national contrary, those policies will benefit them. The average voter doesn't care much about welfare or food stamps unemployment because insurance the average voter thinks they'll never be poor, hungry or unemployed. We don't care about health

insurance because we don't think we'll ever get that sick. We don't care about endless wars and deployments of troops because we're not a part of that other one percent that defends our freedoms. And why would we? We live in a society where these problems have all been reduced to unpleasant abstractions. To many of us, the fate of the soldier from Dallas, Texas, her unemployed husband and their uninsured neighbors have no more connection to our lives than the fate of a rare flower in the Indonesian

Year after year, voters line up at the polls and vote Republican because they don't want to face these uncomfortable truths. They want to believe in an America where every person can truly pull themselves up by their bootstraps and break into the top bracket of society. Never mind the recent study, cited by none other than Rick Santorum, which found this dream more plausible in such capitalist havens as France and

Despite a tax structure that coddles attainable goal for most Americans.

the mega-rich and the stagnation of middle class wages, we've stayed silent, entranced by the millionaires on our televisions, as this dream has flown from our grasp. Half a century ago, the American dream was to own a modest home with a white picket fence. Now we all want to be Kardashians.

The Democratic Party has lost this narrative. Instead of our hyperindividualistic ownership society where we prize the right to solitude above all else, we need to promote a new American dream; one where maybe the rewards of success aren't as high - two houses instead of seven, or a share of a private plane instead of the plane itself - but also where the penalties of failure are not so horrific; where everyone can access the most advanced medical technology in the world, spend a few weeks of the year relaxing with their families and get a useful education. We've lost sight of this dream because the Republicans have successfully framed the debate in terms of the "nanny" state versus freedom; we need to frame the debate

instead in terms of risk. An America run by the Republican Party is the national equivalent of a casino, where the lucky few gain all the rewards, and where the house always wins. To believe their story, all we have to do to be successful is to work hard. That's insulting to the tens of millions of men and women who drag themselves out of bed every morning and work at

menial jobs just to survive. When they don't miraculously become rich it's not because they're too stupid or too lazy. Many of them work harder every day of their lives than you and I will in our most difficult week here at Middlebury. Should we punish them politically and demean their existence just because they weren't dealt the winning hand?

The Democratic Party is the party of inconvenient truths and uncomfortable realities. Until we succeed in deflating the Republican narrative that wealth is nothing more than the product of hard work by pointing to the victims of their policies and by connecting their stories to the median voter - until we link them and their ill-conceived rhetoric of "freedom" from government assistance to the children who don't have a place to call home and the mothers who can't pay their healthcare bills and the soldiers dead from wars of choice in this country we will remain on the defense, the middle class will continue its descent into poverty, and the American Dream will remain more of a fantasy than an

Sleep on it. Please.

I'm tired. Are you? If not, you're probably doing something wrong.

It's no secret that Middlebury students are hard workers. It is, in fact, a huge part of our identity - after all, you don't get into a college like Middlebury without putting in significant time and effort during high school. Though we may not always outwardly express enjoyment with the workload we face during the semester, most of us do enjoy the process of learning and expanding our knowledge and awareness of the world. If we didn't, we probably wouldn't ask our parents to invest a small fortune in our four-year stint in the middle of nowhere.

The expectation that we are eager students who get all of our work done becomes problematic, however, when the health of the student is put at risk. Unfortunately, this is exactly what happens when a student's workload necessitates that most ubiquitous and timeless collegiate rite of passage: the all-nighter.

The research on sleep deprivation is not ambiguous. It has been directly linked to the following physical and psychological effects: headaches, increased blood pressure, muscle aches, depression, memory loss, shaking, hallucinations, irritability and emotional volatility. It severely impedes an individual's working memory, attention span and capacity for thoughtful decision-making.

Sadly, these symptoms are not foreign to most Middlebury students. That is because "pulling an all-nighter" is an alltoo-common method of dealing with the workload that comes with four Middlebury classes and a handful of extracurricular activities (for example, working for the Campus). It has become such an ingrained part of what it means to "work hard" at Middlebury that if I told you that I have never - not once in four years - stayed up all night to finish my work, your first thought is probably either, "he must be a slacker" or "he must be an American Studies major."

Actually, I'm neither - and I did pull a few all-nighters as a first-year - but the point is that a normal, hard-working Middlebury student is expected to prioritize homework over sleep, and any failure to do so connotes a student who is not serious about his or her work and education. This is not a healthy attitude toward learning, and I refuse to believe that my unwillingness to sacrifice sleep for the sake of a grade makes me a bad student. In fact, all the evidence suggests that it makes me a better student at least, a more engaged, attentive and physically healthy one.

The root cause of this pervasive attitude is difficult to trace, and likely depends on who you ask. Most students would probably attribute their all-nighters to the sheer amount of work they have - if their professors gave them less work, there would be less cause for late nights in BiHall or Davis Library. Professors might counter

by suggesting that students manage their time better during the daylight hours, withdraw from time-consuming extracurriculars. Of course, some students may also acknowledge their need to be more efficient with their time, and some professors may admit that the work they assign (multiplied by four) requires an unreasonable time commitment. But the dominant trend, as with most attributions we make as humans, is to place the blame on an external source.

The administration, too, has a role to play in perpetuating the "work over sleep" mentality. By keeping the library open 24 hours during the weeks leading up to finals, they are implicitly encouraging students to view these weeks as a time when it is especially important to work rather than sleep, when, in fact, the direct opposite is true. No empirical study has ever supported the notion that a student does his or her best work when they haven't slept in 24 hours. If anything, we should all be getting more sleep during these critical weeks. However, an always-open library implies

that working from dusk 'til dawn may be the only way to complete one's work - and that this is normal and acceptable.

Ian Trombulak '12 is an Opinions Editor from Middlebury, Vt.

NOTES FROM

THE DESK

How can an administration that publicly decries the student body's use of alcohol as dangerous and problematic also promote sleep deprivation as a route to academic success? Sure, they have never come out and said that students should be pulling all-nighters to finish their work, but what other message are we supposed to receive when the dining halls cook food at midnight and the library is open 24 hours? It certainly doesn't make "getting eight to nine hours of sleep" seem like a normative or desirable goal.

But, of course, the administration is only responding to student demand. When they axed midnight breakfast and 24-hour library access after the 2008 recession, the student outcry was so intense that the SGA stepped in to fund both. Clearly, the attitude exists among students that allnighters are a necessary part of the college experience, especially during "crunch times" like midterms and finals. Whether this is because of an unmanageable workload or a widespread lack of regard for personal health is not clear.

The bottom line is that our learning environment suffers when we are not fully awake, aware and attentive. If sleep deprivation is so deeply ingrained into our model of academic success that we no longer care about having engaged and attentive students in our classrooms, then maybe it's time for us to start thinking of a new model.

Because I'm tired. And I'm tired of

e comparisons" "Unconscionab

Last week, my classmate Sarah Cohen '15 called out the injurious comparison between the Holocaust and the Israeli Occupation in her article entitled, "The other 'N' word." Her article was prompted by an audience member at a presentation by a former Israeli soldier three weeks ago. The Holocaust cannot be compared with the Occupation because, as Sarah argued last week,

READER

Harry Zieve-Cohen '15 is from Brooklyn, N.Y.

Holocaust the was genocide; the Occupation is not. Sarah wrote that bringing the word into the "Nazi" conversation about Israel and Palestine

also should be off-limits. I agree. Yet the Israeli government and many Zionists have themselves linked the Holocaust to the discourse surrounding the Israeli Occupation, invoking it to justify Israel's existence: Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu recently compared Iran to the Nazis. Rendering the issues

inseparable has weakened Israel and forced her citizens to undermine the core values of Judaism.

In an interview with Time magazine about his book, The Holocaust Is Over: We Must Rise from Its Ashes, Avraham Burg said, "The Holocaust was a hellish horror, but we often use it as an excuse to avoid looking around seeing how, existentially, 60 years later, in a miraculous way, [we] are living in a much better situation." Israelis, and Jews in general, live dangerously - in constant fear of existential crisis. We Jews cannot leave the Holocaust behind and dismiss the real potential for the world to turn against us. After the Holocaust, we have rightly learned that Jews must never get complacent. Complacency was of course hardly the cause of the Holocaust. But "never again" must remain an active message. As justification for statehood, however, "never again" is not just never enough; it is detrimental to Israel. Jewish statehood cannot be reparation for the

damage of the Holocaust nor protection against future and present anti-Semitic mobilization.

Furthermore, many Jews and supporters of Israel have used the Holocaust to excuse a double-standard. We condemn Iran for its possible weapons program and call on the United States to cut its stockpile, but say nothing of Israel's unacknowledged nuclear arsenal. We criticize China for its Tibet policy, but remain silent as Israel literally steals land and water from helpless (and stateless) Palestinians. Israel must not be held to a different standard from anyone else. Human rights standards are meaningless if we allow exceptions to them. By remaining stuck in the horrors of the past, Israel can never fully recognize and live in the present. More pressingly, it cannot move forward to create a just and sustainable future.

The great Jewish philosopher Moses Maimonides talked about freedom from oppression for all humanity, not just

for Jews. The Holocaust, as perhaps the most horrific example of genocide in history, belongs not just to Jews but to all people. Its lessons likewise must be learned by everyone. In the words of Hillel, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." All the rest of the Torah, he famously proclaimed, is commentary on that principle. The lesson of the Holocaust is not simply that we must protect Jews' rights; it is that we must protect everyone's. Equating the Holocaust with the Occupation is not only misguided and spurious; doing so ignores the real conversation we need to have. We must educate each other about Israel-Palestine. But the community also needs to have an honest discussion about the issues that underlie the conflict: racism, classism, violence and environmental injustice. Until we have that discussion, we cannot talk honestly about Israel or about the Holocaust, and we will continue to misunderstand and to make unconscionable comparisons.

Dispelling gender-based rumors among Middlets

I attended one of the most liberal, enlightened private schools in the Mid-Atlantic from age four to 18, where instead of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, we sung out Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech every morning and had pop quizzes on the Big 8 every afternoon following snack. If one was

even so much THAT THING as suspected of saying the N-, or C-, or K- or

Joanna Rothkopf'12 is from Washington, D.C. would be taken

post-haste the Diversity Office where they would be given several swift and effective spankings and sent home for the day if not forever.

F-words

I say this just to preface why I am so surprised that there was not one institutionally-sponsored club, class or lecture that pertained to women's rights until high school - and no, I am not talking about the rights of women in truly oppressive countries, or the victims of genital mutilation and other similarly horrendous practices — because my old school (and Middlebury, too) eats that type of thing up. I'm talking about the implicit value systems that inform how most of my fellow students (including me) shaped judgments about our classmates and ourselves. Girls were taught that you could be the president of the student body, and maybe next of the USA — while they were simultaneously learning that the only way to get a boy to like you is to get nearly blackout and chase him to whatever sketchy upperclassman house party he might be attending where you might hurl your drunken bod at him and hope for the

Middlebury is, thank goodness, more socially diverse than my previous school was. There are many more conservatives, and, for balance, many more radically liberal students. Despite this excitingly broad scope of social opinions and beliefs (that only occasionally intersect with political views), I've found that even some of the most vocal preachers of equality and anarchical destruction of the power structures that confine and oppress somehow still possess some of the most deeply rooted prejudices about those who identify as women. For some reason, the feminist cause, other than to say, "I am tolerant! Women should get to abort their unborn babes and pierce their nips while getting paid just as much as I do!" (which is great, but not nearly enough) has not yet permeated the dominant progressive discourse on campus.* Why is it that some Middlebury students are so quick to spring to the defense of certain marginalized groups, both domestic and international, but are not quite ready to destroy prevailing attitudes regarding 51 percent of the student body?

It is in this light that I've decided to write up a few gender-based rumors that are perpetuated at Middlebury and elsewhere. As minor as some of them sound, the continued belief in these truly dumb stereotypes contributes to the perpetuation of a society that believes men should be big and tough and awesome and that women should be meek and nice and nuts.

- 1. If a man is a vegetarian, he's a
- If a woman is watching her weight, she's anorexic.
- If a woman isn't watching her weight, but manages to stay thin, she's SUCH A BRO OMG I LOVE THIS GIRL.
- 4. If a man uses the elliptical machine in the gym ... oh wait actually I'm pretty sure that's never happened in the 200+ year history of Middlebury

- 5. Only dark-haired women are allowed to take WAGS classes, save one or two token gays.
- Only dark-haired women are allowed to join Poor Form Poetry, save one or two token
- If a woman who is your superior takes a stern tone, she is suuuuch a bitch and will likely die alone.
- If a man who is your superior takes a stern tone, he is going to be so successful and it's probably a good idea to start dating him now so that he can finance your part-time degree in ceramics.
- If a woman reacts strongly to something you've done it's because she's pre-menstrual or should be admitted to an asylum.
- Because a man doesn't text you back it's because he's fallen victim to his own manly ineptitude, i.e. following his ding a
- 11. If a woman cuts her hair short she's clearly alerting the world of her newfound lesbianism.
- 12. You can't be a feminist if you do anything inconsistent with hardline feminism because women (and especially feminists) must stick to perfect ideological consistency to earn their gross title.

13. Bashing a female peer's perceived vapidity to a group of men is a totally effective way to advance the feminist cause!

- 14. If a man is simultaneously dating two women, and you are one of these women, it is DEFINITELY the other woman's fault and she should start being your enemy and the enemy of all of your friends, immediately, no questions asked, because the man is so cute and just happens to be the perfect combination of arty and buff!
- Sexual harassment is a rare occurrence at Middlebury.
- 16. If a female first-year has sex with a dude but is blackout drunk, that's totes healthy because she's a freshman and we are exploring our sexuality, stop being such a prude!
- 17. If a man yells at a woman when she refuses to sleep with him, it's not sexual harassment.
- ism.
- 19. Feminism is only for white, upper-middle class women and caters only to their interests. It cannot possibly address the intersectional ties between race, class, and gender.
- 20. Because you say you're a feminist, you don't believe any of these myths.

Again, I stress that I am not condemning anyone for believing any number of items from the preceding list — I obviously believed a lot of them until recently and still catch myself sporadically judging people because of this value system. But, it is time to recognize our (potentially subconscious) acceptance of these and other sweeping generalizations and evaluations, realize that they are patently false, and begin to work towards their eradication.

*In saying this I obviously am not including the Women and Gender Studies Department, Chellis House, the People's Gender Council or others who have committed their academic careers to studying feminism and related

In national defense of a big, huge government

When I read pieces such as last week's "Patrick Henry: give me liberty, too" supporting the U.S. Patriot Act in this section, I feel sick to my stomach. Easily one of the most constitutionally controversial laws in the long history of this nation, rife with constitutionally controversial laws, the U.S. Patriot Act epitomizes a great Republican paradox: big government is bad government, except for when it's capital "R" Republican government.

My issue today lies not with last week's baffling defense of the U.S. Patriot Act in particular - those with a greater knowledge of the act's implications ought to foster that dialogue - but instead with the claim that, while "a main tenet of the Republican Party is its insistence on small government ... when it comes to national security, a majority of Republicans will condone a larger role of the state." The author of that article goes on to cite the preamble to the constitution as accountable for this big government "exception." I must ask, however, what does national security actually entail and which political party truly cares about it.

The federal government plays several important roles in regulating parts of Americans' everyday lives. Governments build roads, schools and hospitals. They ensure that tap water is potable and that the electricity remains

Governments enforce criminal laws to keep our families and loved ones away from those people who wish to do them harm (though I am not talking about terrorists in Yemen or Pakistan who, to most Americans for all of their lives, will remain non-entities and propagandized abstractions of fear; I am talking about guy robbing the corner store on Roosevelt Boulevard

in Anytown, USA). Good governments, like our American government, provide us with security in countless ways, only some of which have anything to do with the Departments of Defense or Homeland Security. The U.S. Patriot Act may keep Americans safe in some unproven ways (no, that we have had fewer threats to our security since September 11, 2001, does not prove or even necessarily suggest that the tenets of the act have foiled terrorists' aims to hurt Americans; that is a jump in the illogic supporters of the act are all too eager to make) but other important staples of government keep America a place worth keeping safe. In other words, our government, our exceptional government — as in unique and not necessarily better than other governments — makes this country worth defending. Our government protects our patriotism; why don't we

As a person averse to inefficiency and waste and as a former employee (read: intern) of the New York City government, I can speak to the presence of gratuitous spending, hiring and bureaucracy that has found its way into our system. Much of what I did in my government post seemed irrelevant to the starry-eyed optimism with which I view American government. Such is the charge of a purely good and effective government, to cut down on needless spending. But spending on endless reams of printer paper or on wages for employees solely responsible for writing out-of-date newsletters to constituents is actually needless; a lot of other government spending many

Republicans would call needless serves an important purpose and role in defending the country in practice.

Without big government, who will help to prevent the number of starving families in this nation from increasing? Who will help citizens rebuild roads and bridges when storms ravage them? Who will devise ways to foot the bills facing hospitals forced to admit to their emergency rooms poor people who lack health insurance which the government tried to help provide? Who will protect Americans from falling into another recession, one

concocted largely on Wall Street (my brother works on Wall Street, so don't try to tell me I don't realize that who can care and

National security

is more than just

water boarding

terrorists under

the Patriot Act.

National security

means protecting

our poor, our

wealthy, our

hugnry, our obese

... our pacifists and

our hawks.

Addi DiSesa '12 is bankers are people from Wynnewood, Pa.

love and feel too)? Who will protect Americans from the real, tangible fears and threats they confront each and

My point is that we have big governments and many governments in this country — federal, state and local, not to mention to pseudo-governments existing in our schools, clubs, teams, et cetera - and these governments do a lot of positive things for a lot of good people. Surely some bad apples have found themselves in elected positions

of power and some other bad apples have enjoyed the fruits of others' labor without doing too much to help out, but since when do we let the minority alone rule in this country? Never, we rule one and all together.

National security then is more than waterboarding terrorists under the U.S. Patriot Act. National security means protecting our poor, our wealthy, hungry,

obese, our blacks, our whites, our Christians, our atheists, our political, our apolitical, our pacifists and our hawks. We must protect each other by making our roads passable. We must give ourselves security by living in a society that honors the human dignities that we first enumerated in the Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to our constitution. We must defend our liberty by not abolishing the very body that enables it.

American security is exceptional security. We stand opposed to threats to our liberty. So I will quote Patrick Henry, who cried, "Give me liberty or give me death." But first give me a government that protects and guarantees my liberty with helpful agencies and programs. The Departments of Defense and Homeland Security are concerned with the glamour of national defense. The Department of Education, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Interior, to name a few, are concerned with the nitty-gritty of it. Our government, in its entirety, protects us. Let it continue to grow and to protect us. There are few deregulated free market solutions to national security.

So the question remains: which party stands for national security? The party of small government, interested in the defense of America from terrorists abroad, or the party of big, huge and sometimes cumbersome government, with its bothersome agencies aimed at making sure we, the undeserving, we, the ingrates, have safe roads to travel and clean air to breathe?

More info about LessMeat Monday

Almost 1000 people took the LessMeat Monday survey, which is amazing. Overall, the results were really positive, but I wanted to take some time lay out a few of the main criticisms and respond to them.

The real goal should be local and organic food, and the meat vs. nonmeat debate is missing the point. Though local and organic foods are important parts of sustainable food systems, after meeting with the head of dining, Matthew Biette, we were informed that they were unaffordable for the

Middlebury

While we could

something

along the lines

of a special, local

halls.

done

dining

have

Samantha Strom '13.5 is from Chapel Hill, N.C.

Atwater dinner, we feared this would only cater to students who were already passionate about the issue and that it would not raise any new awareness. A related complaint was that vegetarian diets actually supported corn and soy industries which are worse than the meat industry. I agree that big soy and corn agriculture are not ideal, but disagree that our vegetarian options supported them more than meat would have.

While it is true that we had one tofu option made from soy, our other protein options were pasta, cheese, chick peas and hummus. Also, livestock consumes one-third of the world's grain, so meat production is intrinsically tied with the corn industry. There are many other food issues that we did not fully address that are very important, but that does not invalidate the meat vs. vegetarian debate, which we chose to tackle because it is feasible for the dining hall on a weekly basis.

Vegetarian food was cheaper than meat so we should pay less/it was more expensive so it was unfair to the dining hall. Our group did a cost benefit analysis of meat products vs. nonmeat products for the dining hall, and the prices turned out to be approximately the same. We originally hoped that less meat would save the dining hall money, but Matthew Biette is great at buying quality meat at great prices.

should focus on before environmental problems tackling meat. If we want to help the environment, addressing meat production is a necessity. The 2006 FAO paper "Livestock's Long Shadow" reported that livestock production causes 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions (more than the entire

transportation sector), it is most likely the leading cause of biodiversity loss and water pollution worldwide, and it uses up 70 percent of agricultural land, half of which is used solely for animal feed, which is extremely energy inefficient. Meat production is a serious environmental problem that can be partially mitigated by something as simple as choosing to not eat meat one meal per week.

We disrespected and prohibited choice. Our project was in no way meant to force anyone to do anything. We considered doing a completely Meatless Monday and decided against it because we wanted people to have a choice. While we did take away one meat option, we added another dish that could be eaten by both vegetarians and meat eaters on campus. We tried very hard not to disrespect anyone, and tried to make that clear in the email when we wrote that we respect whatever you chose. Our intention was to inform people of some of the environmental consequences of those choices. Many people suggested that if we hadn't had any information, no one would have noticed the difference. We discussed simply trying to sneak in less meat, but decided against it because education and increased awareness is what will actually make a difference in the

long run. We truly wanted the focus to be on education, and it was. We stood passively outside of the dining halls with information and made ourselves available to answer any questions that students had.

We were imposing our minority vegetarian views on everyone. We were promoting less meat, not a vegetarian diet (in fact three out of our four group members are not vegetarian). Meat reduction is not such a radical idea; what is new and radical is our increased demand for meat, which has grown 37 percent since 1980 and is predicted to double by 2050. The worst case scenario is that LessMeat Monday only benefitted the minority, but the Organic Garden Survey last year found that 15 percent of students did not eat meat on campus, and LessMeat Monday represents less than 5 percent of meals on campus.

There was not enough information. Many people made a beeline to the food (understandably) and missed the big posters and the info sheet outside the dining hall, so I will put those along with our citations and paper online at the end of the semester when we finish our project. I also would love to talk about this if anyone wants more information or is confused.

The Jewish National Fund: Preventing a two-state solution?

Last week in East Jerusalem, one Palestinian family was four days away from losing their home. The threat of eviction was the result of a morally suspect legal maneuver used by the organization Himnuta to transfer the deed from the Sumarin Family. Himnuta is a subsidiary of the Jewish National Fund (JNF), which has long claimed that it does not do business over the Green Line.

Under Israel's Absentee Property Law, a law applied solely to Arab residents, the government was able to take legal possession of the house after the family patriarch's death in 1991. Because his three sons were living outside the country, despite the other family members living in the house, their absentee status was grounds for the government to assume the deed, and soon after transfer it to Himnuta in

Since then, Himnuta has been engaged in a decades long legal battle to enforce this, while technically legal, unjust eviction so it can then turn the house over to the settler organization, ELAD. The house, located in the Palestinian East Jerusalem neighborhood of Silwan, is directly inside the City of David National Park. The City of David itself is a controversial archeological dig and park run by ELAD, an organization whose directive is to transform the demographics of East Jerusalem in favor of the Jewish population. They seek to "Judaize" the neighborhood, pushing out Palestinian families and replacing them with Jewish ones through their destructive settler activity.

For a bit of background, JNF has long been

one of the central addresses for Diaspora giving to support the State of Israel. Set up in 1901, 47 years before the founding of Israel, it bought land in what would become modern Israel on behalf of Jews seeking to immigrate. Without the JNF, it is very likely Israel's path to statehood would not have been very long and their importance is not lost on us. After the state was founded, the JNF took primary responsibility for forestry and ecological work, as well as

administering large tracts of through-Submitted by J Street Uout Israel. It's Middlebury official policies

keep their work within the Green Line. This is where their subsidiary, Himnuta, comes into the picture. While not officially attached to the JNF, Himnuta is entirely owned by the JNF and shares an executive. It's not difficult to put the pieces together on that front.

Organizations such as the JNF helped build the State of Israel and have filled an important role in the development of the country. However, for those of us that see such settlement activity as dangerous to integrity of Israel as a democratic, Jewish state, this JNF sanctioned activity is more than troubling. Their ventures across the Green Line are unacceptable. They are betraying the trust of those who have supported the JNF in the belief that they are helping to build Israel's future; rather this behavior jeopardizes a two-state solution by appropriating land in East Jerusalem. Neighborhoods

that would, by the way, become the capital of a Palestinian state in any final status agreement. It is disappointing to see an organization that has done so much good, such important work in the past to then imperil the future of the very country it founded. Because that is what the JNF does when it crosses the Green Line in such an irresponsible manner; it works against the very forces that would ensure Israel's survival as a Jewish and democratic state.

This action is particularly troubling when taking into account the implicit support given by other central well-known Jewish organizations, such as Birthright. This winter, 11,300 young Jews will travel to Israel on Birthright trips. Like the JNF, Birthright's official policies prevent their trips from crossing the Green Line. However, many of them will go to the City of David, without knowing the dangerous implications of their visit - that they are monetarily supporting a settler organization that works to intimidate and annex a neighborhood. While Birthright provides an important opportunity for American Jews to connect with their homeland, it must be done in a morally sustainable way, one that engages with our values of justice and democracy. Indeed, many of our own leaders in J Street U first connected with Israel on a Birthright trip. This ten-day trip proved to be an essential building block in their commitment to making Israel a better place for our own and future generations. We believe Birthright plays an essential role in maintaining the relationship between the American-Jewish community and Israel, but it

must not come at the expense of what is right.

Unfortunately, what is happening to the Sumarin family is not an exception. These quiet injustices have been carried out for decades. They are pulling apart the fabric of a democratic Israel, thread by thread, quietly enough so that we might not even notice until it is too late, until the chance for a two-state solution has been rendered an impossibility for those families in East Jerusalem and the Occupied Territories. It's disappointing for those of us who stand firmly behind Israel and a twostate solution to see the explicit, and implicit, cooperation of important Jewish institutions like the JNF and Birthright involved in activity that erodes our Jewish and democratic values, those upon which Israel were originally found.

There is some good news in all of this trouble: It was thanks to the efforts of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel and North America and Solidarity Sheikh Jarrah that the eviction was originally postponed. By publicly pressuring the JNF to stop the eviction, it was indefinitely delayed. Now, it's time to cancel it permanently. These campaigns, supported by J Street U, are essential in making sure the values that the Jewish people seek to exemplify are truly represented in our institutions, actions, and homeland. We must move the conversation forward and restore justice to a system facing existential threats by those impeding the establishment of a two-state solution, the only way to guarantee the survival of Israel as a democracy and a viable Palestinian state.

Regarding the dismissal of FYC Barrett Smith '13 I write today to express my stunned disappointment regarding | Earlier this week Barrett Smith, one of two First-Year more proportionate response to the singular nature of

the black eye our institution has inflicted upon itself regarding the capricious, improper dismissal of one of its most dedicated and steadfastly loyal employees: First Year Counselor Barrett Smith.

Sam Murray '13

In the interest of full disclosure, I consider the dismissed Res Life staff member a close friend. That will discredit my words to some, and it is for this reason that I have refrained, until this point, from expressing publicly my concern with the unfolding events that have led to his relief of duty. But one need not be

biased to be dismayed by the removal of an FYC who has exemplified every characteristic and value that a freshman could ever hope for in a leader.

For the FYC is, to a group of new students navigating a tumultuous set of new experiences, the very epitome of a leader and role model. By condemning their leader, the administration has, in the same stroke, stigmatized every value he embodied to these freshmen: trust and loyalty; generosity and selflessness; optimism and faith in his fellow man. And you had better believe they are watching. These young new members of our community have now received a callous lesson in what their school values. They have learned hatred over love, fear over acceptance and intolerance in place of trust. They have learned that those they have learned to admire and model themselves after can be disparaged and disrespected regardless of their opinions of the matter. And they have learned that unless they toe the line, abide by unarticulated rules of acceptable differentness and defer in all things to the dictates of their new school's infallible administration, they too could find themselves in a position to be disciplined and deprived of something they love.

I love this school. I love my FYCs, and two years later, still hold their friendships dear and often seek their council. I love so much of what Middlebury and its commons system have done for me, but I fear for them. Because, today, for the first time, I am ashamed to be a student of Middlebury College.

Counselors on Stewart Hall's fourth floor, was dismissed Barrett's transgression. Furthermore, we are frustrated that of his duties. This came after Barrett had hosted a person the most potentially affected members of this community unaffiliated with Middlebury in his room for about a week. We will not be exploring the details surrounding this guest's stay or his departure, many of which are the subject of debate, but we do urge readers to learn more if they feel it necessary. What we do wish to express is our disappointment in the Brainerd Commons Administrators' decision to fire Barrett. As first-years and residents of Stewart Hall, we hope and request that the Administration, namely Brainerd Commons Dean Natasha Chang, Dean of the Students Katy Smith Abbott, Dean of the College Shirley Collado and Brainerd Commons Faculty Head Roman Graf will review and overturn the decision.

The transition to college life has not always been easy and we feel incredible gratitude for the wonderful Residential Life staff that has helped along the way. Barrett is an integral member of the Res Life team and his care, sensitivity, kindness and passion for the Middlebury community both comforts and inspires us. Indicative of his enthusiasm is the special effort his broken foot has required he make to walk up and down four flights of stairs every day. Barrett could have requested a room change, but he was set on remaining with his first-years, and we are the better for it. His absence, come January, will compromise the comfort that had been cultivated by the Stewart community — including Natasha and Roman - this semester.

While we understand that Barrett's decision represented a lapse in judgment, we know that such a lapse is hardly telling of the way Barrett approaches his duties as an FYC. As such, we feel that the decision to fire Barrett is excessive. While some punishment may indeed have been necessary, we wish it could have come in the form of a reprimand or probation. A punishment of this sort would have been a

the students - were not consulted in the review process over

the past few weeks. We admit that we are not familiar with all aspects of the deliberations, but what we do know is that this decision

will be detrimental to the tightly knit community that Stewart currently houses. We recognize the concern Administrators might feel about setting a precedent but feel that the College has other means at its disposal with which it could avoid such an adverse result. There

Sam Smith '15, Harry Zieve-Cohen '15, Nathan Weil '15, and Jia Jun Jee '15

READER

is another precedent at stake here: the disruption and marginalization of first-years' already volatile lives.

Finally, we do not want it to seem as if we lack an understanding of how difficult this decision must have been for the Administration to make. We know that they hold a responsibility to parents as well as others in the College and we appreciate that the intent behind this decision was to protect students' interests. We simply do not feel that this decision reflects those interests. Rather than communicating to parents and others that Barrett had been reprimanded and given a better understanding of the full scope of the requirements that surround an FYC, the administration decided on an unnecessarily harsh course of action. Once again, we are disappointed with the unilateral nature of Barrett's firing and we sincerely hope that Barrett's case will be reviewed and that his strong support from students, which we anticipate will become increasingly evident over the following week, will help lead to his reinstatement.

MAKING VIDEO GAMES

Chapir Boyer 14

Tell us about your project.

"Ever since I was a little kid, I wanted to make video games. I thought they were a cool way to tell a story. And that's how I kind of conceived them. I come up with an idea and say, okay how would I interact with it rather than how would I read it or watch it. But I never really had the capability. I couldn't program. I'm not much of a visual artist. I could only really write and come up with ideas. But this year, a friend of mine, Colby, started a game design club. So, I learned some coding the last two semesters. I got him and a couple of other people to help me out with the coding and the visuals and I'm basically focusing on the design and the writing of it and also trying to dip my fingers into every part of the project. It's pretty much a group project, I'm just the one that happened to have the space at Old Stone Mill."

How has O.S.M. helplid you and your project?

"So far the space has been the biggest thing. Having a place to go where I can move around – it's how I think about things – is a little hard to do in a crowded dorm. I can go into one of the rooms and just stay there when I'm trying to figure stuff out. That's been really useful. I've also gotten in contact with people who know more about coding and visual arts so I hope to bring them into OSM as well."

Tell as about your game:

"The story for my game is a science-fiction adaptation of Heart of Darkness. A forest sprung up overnight in the center of America, and no one has been able to cross it. Everybody that has entered the forest has been stalked by mysterious shadows, tripped up by plants and nearly killed by all manner of accidents. It's almost as if the forest is alive. A group of explorers build a robot to help navigate the wood, but as they are transporting it from one coast to the other to have it tested out, the plane crashes into the middle of the forest. The main character is an engineer on the ship. He finds the robot in the wreckage and repairs it. As he travels he builds it a face and starts calling it Angel. Eventually, Angel begins speaking to him. The story will be told as the player moves through the world. Instead of cut scenes playing between levels, the player will be teasing out the details as they play. Depending on how the player moves through the game, and the choices they make, the ending can turn out quite differently.'



"I s

call

last

trai

"On I to

tha

had

roo

roo

just

tak

bee

clas

dra

aca

to r

and

act

for

hav

sys

Jele "Dinne togeth

sor or from a

bunch

new st

strang

this is

FAIRIES & FEATHERS



Tell us about your project.

"My project is called Fairies and Feathers. I'm making fairy jewelry and feather jewelry. It's hard to describe what that looks like but I mainly work with metals and chains and feathers and coming up with my own design. It's a lot of fun, very crafty."

When did you get started?

"I started this project at the Old Stone Mill this semester. Last semester I did clothing reconstruction. But I've been making jewelry since I was a little kid."

How has O.S.M helped you and your project?

"It's been a great resource and a great motivator. I don't know if I would have been able to find the time to work on a project during school if it wasn't for Old Stone Mill. They also have me a granted me a mini grant so I was able to buy more materials that I wouldn't have been able to afford."

What's one thing you learned from your project?

"I figured out how to make an earring that I've been seeing at craft shows. The earring attaches from your earring hole up to a clip at the top of your ear with a chain. I love that style and I've been wanting to figure out how to make it for myself and I did."



THREE BROTHERS SUSHI

Tell us about your project.

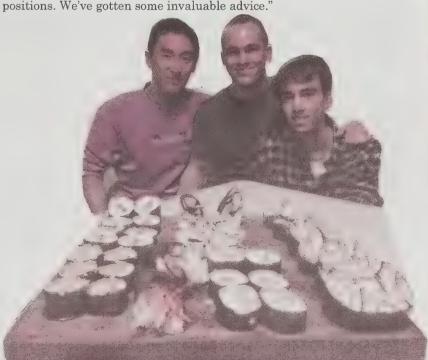
"Our project is to start a sushi catering business on campus. Currently, we are only offering catering services but our eventual goal is to offer delivery of sushi one to two nights a week for students on campus."

How did you get the idea?

"Hmm. We found out that the three of us liked eating sushi and one of us (Zach) already knew how to make it. So I taught Pat and David, and then we started making sushi pretty often."

How has OSM helped you and your project?

"They've provided us with a great space in which to work and a lot of encouragement along the way. It's great to be able to talk to other OSM tenants and get advice from people who have been in similar entrepreneurship positions. We've gotten some invaluable advice."



LINOLEUM PRINTMAKING

Tell us about your project

"I started teaching myself how to linoleum block print last fall. Right now I'm specifically working on illustrating a short story that I wrote for a creative writing class last spring. Basically, I'm coming up with ideas, drawing them on to my sketchbook, transferring the drawing onto linoleum block, craving them out and printing them."

How did you get the idea?

"One of my family friends is a professional print maker and he lend me a mini press so I took it to school with me. I wanted to use it and do something with it. I thought about wood block printing or linoleum block printing. Linoleum block printing is a little easier than wood blocking so I ordered some linoleum online and started doing it because I had the resources."

How has OSM helped you and your project?

"I really wouldn't be able to do it if I didn't have a room. I wouldn't be able to keep the press in my room. I wanted to put it in a safe place that's locked but is also available to me. Literally just the space is crucial. I haven't been taking any art classes here because I've been avoiding taking an intro studio art class. So having an opportunity to just draw is something that I don't get in my academic life and is really really important to me. Just having a motivation, someone not only who's encouraging me but also nudging me about the upcoming showcase and how I need to make stuff. I really, really enjoy it when I actually sit down and do it but it would be much harder I think for me to find time if I didn't have the encouragement and a community that acts as a support

HANDMADE CLOTHES

Larah Bates

Tell us about your project.

"I've been making clothes from fabric and secondhand clothes that I buy at the Trunk and at thrift stores. I'm hoping to take orders and sell some pieces."

When did you get started?

"I started on the project last spring."

How did you get the idea?

"I was talking to my friend, Toby, on the break bus about Old Stone Mill and how we both wanted to apply, and we came up with our respective ideas then."

How has OSM helped you and your project?

"It's really great just to have the space. I need the sewing machine for my project and I don't have the space to keep one in my room. Also, I don't think my roommate would love the noise. Without the Old Stone Mill, I wouldn't have been able to do the project."

What's one thing you learned from your project?

"I learned how difficult it is do make yourself do something if you could do it anytime - scheduling becomes really tricky. It's been good practice in self-discipline and self-scheduling. I think the Old Stone Mill is great for that."



DINNER WITH STRANGERS

Tell us about your project.

system."

Dinner with Strangers is exactly what it sounds like; where about 10 strangers who come together to have dinner together. We have a guest chef who cooks the dinner, we have a professor or staff usually, we have alumni and someone from town and then we try to get students from about every grade and different social groups, an international student or an athlete. A bunch of people who don't know each other and then way it works is that each student invites a new student for the next dinner. So it is really sustainable. It's strangers who continue to invite strangers. So it's worked really well so far. It used to exist at Middlebury a couple years ago. So this is kind of the revival Dinner with Strangers. We've had great conversations and great food."

Why bring back Dinner with Strangers?

"It is an amazing idea. It is incredible. At Middlebury, it is easy to get stuck in your routine; you have your same friends. So the opportunity to sit down and have extended conversations with people; you'd be surprised to see how many people really don't each other at Middlebury. It's been pretty easy to get group of people who are complete strangers. People are surprisingly honest and excited to be there. I think it s a great opportunity to talk to people you wouldn't normally talk to and just get a really different perspective on things. The ranges of topics and conversations that come out of it have been really incredible because people have such different backgrounds."

How has O.S.M. helped you and your project?

'All the dinners happen in Old Stone Mill. There's this room at the top that perfectly fit a table and fits ten people. There's also a kitchen on the first floor that we use and a dishwasher, which is amazing because we don't have to do dishes. The place is really secluded. Public safety walks through, which is sort of weird because it disrupts the dinner but without Old Stone Mill I wouldn't be able to have a space to put on the dinner and get away with strangers."

What's one thing you learned from your project? I now know a lot more people on campus that I say hi to, that come from a lot of different social groups. I learned how to make birdcalls, we talked about cow placentas, learned about cheese and how you know what good cheese is, and I also learned about Belgian cuisine. We've had all kinds of people - we had liberal people, conservative people, and more. wish I could invite everyone."

SUSTAINABLE GARDENS

Tell us about your project

"The project ended up being a series of things. I started out with my application thinking I'd do a lot of recycled and green art, which I mostly stuck with. I had originally planned on making various forms of terrariums and hanging gardens, but didn't anticipate how much all the materials would cost. I've moved on to making art from old books since I have no shortage of supplies there."

How has OSM helped you and your project?

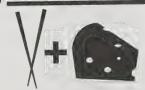
'It's been really nice to just have space. Students aren't offered the kind of space needed for an ongoing project where you can really get messy. I think it's important to foster the idea that not everything we produce here at Middlebury has to be labeled as 'finished' or 'complete.' Being able to return to something and rework it, change it, to make it about a process that allows for engaging with your work on various levels is just as important to our education. Creativity and innovation don't always happen as a product of a singular epiphany or brilliant idea; so much of our work here at Middlebury is time sensitive that we don't always get to delve into our work as deeply as we would like to or approach it from new angles."

What's one thing you learned from your project?

"It reminded how much I would really like to have art be a part of my life after I leave Middlebury. It's nice to be reminded that even if something

and make you happy. Working at Old Stone Mill has given me a lot of insight into who I am when you take away the course load and student groups and social structure on campus which has really helped me re-frame my goals getting ready to move beyond Middlebury."





TASTE CHEESE ECHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

After my Natural Science and the Environment class midterm, all my classmates looked like steamed dumplings. Everyone seemed to be in a daze, after spending too much energy on writing the test. I probably looked as steamed as they did. I couldn't help but laugh out loud. Well, I thought, my classmates don't care about their GPA, but it seems that there is no difference in how seriously we treated our exams.

I always hear people saying that Asian students are so diligent and dedicated to their schoolwork. I don't identify with this personally, but I admit that it's true. The diligence stereotype is not accurate because Asians are nerds or that we love the schoolwork that much. Let me reveal some of my the real reasons my Asian friends are so diligent (at least on the outside).

Because of how our parents raised us, we think about results. You can call this ambition. I have upper-class friends who started to think about their career and applying for jobs as early as junior year. In order to get a good job, you need to get a high GPA in a top college. In order to go to top college, you need to perform well in high school. In order to get into major high school in the country, you need to study hard in elementary school. So basically our parents tell us to work hard and be at the top as early as first grade. The expectation of parents is so high that we also develop a high expectation of ourselves. And we tend to think of the next step early, which also contributes to the importance of GPA in our mind. GPA, GPA, GPA

Because of the examination system (at one point, your whole life depends on one exam called national college entrance examination, the Gaokao), the time we are able to spend on our interests and extracurricular activities are so limited. And different from Americans, we don't emphasize sports that much. It is common that we never to go to gym and sports club. Our interests are always activities that can be done alone, like practicing calligraphy, playing piano, watching movies and listening to music (oops, no dancing). The one child policy definitely contributes to this: we learn to play alone because there is no one else around. Plus, our parents are so protective that they restrict the fun we have with friends, even when we grow older.

Another reason why we look so diligent, studying all the time, is because English is not our first language. We need more time to finish the same assignment than U.S. students. This is especially sad during our freshman year, when we are improving our English and proofreading our papers, while everyone else is spending time being social. After we catch up with our schoolwork, it's either time for bed or time to shyly interrupt the existing conversation of others.

Let me sum up the procedure of an Asian international student, that looks so diligent. Friday night, a friend asks you to go to a dance party because she feels like you have been doing your homework for ages (actually you are just trying to catch up with the reading from last week). So you go to LoFo, find your friends in a circle. You are happy that finally you get to spend some time to socialize. Then you realize you don't know how to move your body (literally, to dance). Why didn't you learn that in high school? Because you were Chinese, or because you were studying under the careful eyes of your parents? You try, but feel embarrassed because of the awkward movements. Besides, the distance between males and females are to close for you to be comfortable. And what's worse you can't help but think about how the party will make you sleep through your alarm the next morning. But you have an assignment due on Monday, you think. At last, you make up your mind and tell your (drunk) friends that you are going back to your dorm. "What? Stay and have fun! Don't be so studious!"

STUDENT SP-TLIGHT: CAMERON WILSON

By Geoffrey Brown

When I met Cameron Wilson '14, my first thought was "please don't crush me." I feel that it must be a pretty common reaction. He is built like a tank made out of biceps and can almost always be spotted thanks to his MCRC (Rugby Club) jacket. Well, that and his immediately recognizable South African accent.

But "South African" doesn't begin to describe Wilson's identity. Even after talking to him for the better part of an afternoon, it's still difficult to decide where exactly Wilson is from. Born in Washington, D.C., Wilson moved to Johannesburg, South Africa at an early age, where he spent the majority of his childhood. However, between attending boarding school for five years and then immediately shipping off to Middlebury, Wilson hasn't spent a significant amount of time "home" in over seven years, seldom making the trip back to South Africa. Ask Wilson almost anything about his past and you're bound to be met with his huge grin and told, "It's complicated."

Despite this, Wilson remains resolutely South African at heart.

"I definitely identify myself as South African, and it is certainly my home," he said. "It is easy to become disillusioned with South Africa when you witness the rampant poverty and political corruption. We're still dealing with the colonial impact but I'm confident for our country's future."

This optimism is refreshing in light of recent scandals last month revolving

around the African National Congress, South Africa's leading political party, including the suspension of controversial figurehead, Julius Malema, for his disturbing racist remarks directed at white South Africans and the passing of a bill that would severely hinder South African journalists' freedom of speech. Wilson, a German and Political Science double major, is interested in journalism and hopes that some good can come out of the proposed legislature.

"This bill needed to be passed to reveal the true nature of South Africa's ruling regime to those comfortable with trivializations of its shortcoming," he said.

But there is much more to Wilson than his cosmopolitan upbringing and intimidating stature. He's an accomplished player for the rugby club (which recently finished its first season as a Division-I team), an avid saxophone player and a fantastic artist. One of his pieces, "Word Map," can be found on display in the Admissions Office and simply must be seen. Without giving away too much, I'll just say that it presents a poignant perception of cultural/political geography.

Oh, and he's also in the process of getting his American pilot license, a formality after years of training flying abroad. When I asked Wilson if there was anything he didn't do, he laughed and assured me that there was ... but I don't believe him.

What completes Wilson's personality is how down to earth he is.

"I'm so thankful to be here," he said.
"The sense of community here is amaz-

The world is big scary place. Luckily, Cameron Wilson '14 is big, scary rugby player.

ing."

Wilson is always happy to meet new people and discuss anything from current global politics to the cultural significance of *Step Brothers*. So the next time you're walking through Ross and you hear that unmistakable South African lilt, take a seat and have a chat with the worldly and wise Cameron Wilson. Don't worry, he doesn't bite ... or punch.

International students spend holidays in USA

By Kirtley Righi

Though Anis Mebarki '15 will not return to his home country of Algeria for December recess, he is content to remain on the campus.

"I've lived in a small town all my life and now I'm again in a small town," said Mebarki. "My friends are staying here as well. We'll cook and hang out together."

About 45 students receive permission to live on campus during the three-week break, according to Doug Adams, associate dean of students. Most are international students. For these students, the break provides the perfect opportunity to relax, socialize, and explore the greater area. Mebarki and his friends have already begun to brainstorm creative ways to spend their vacation. Host families will likely facilitate their plans.

"Students allowed to remain on campus will often connect with their host families for dinner or an activity during the break," said Director of International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) Kathy Foley-Giorgio. In the past ten years, the Friends with International Students (FIS) host program has matched roughly 350 local families with students, about 50-60 matches every year, according to ISSS Adviser Benjamin Bruno.

First-year international students are introduced to their host families in the fall. December break provides an opportunity for students to get to know each other without the time pressures of an academic schedule. From ski outings to weekend-long visits, family meals and daytrips to various Vermont towns, host parents break the collegiate bubble, giving students a chance to experience a wider view into American culture, as well as an opportunity to enjoy their va-

cation.

"[My host family] introduced me to different perspectives of American life," said Marjeela Basij-Rasikh '15 of Afghanistan. "It's great because we're both interested in the other's culture."

Skiing is often at the top of the list for winter activities with Vermont host families.

"My host sister is learning to ski. I want to continue practicing," Naina Quayyam '15 of Pakistan. She plans on joining her host family for a day of skiing.

In addition to visiting host families, Folio-Giorgio says that some students may move in with them over the break instead of living on campus. Others leave campus to stay with old friends or relatives, or Middlebury students who live in the U.S. Perhaps a testament to the College's tight-knit community, says Foley-Giorgio. "Some faculty and staff members will invite students they know to their homes during the break, as well."

A few students hope to spend time in New York City or Boston during vacation with friends, siblings or relatives living and studying in those cities. Other students plan to take the ACTR bus to Burlington for a change of scenery throughout the break. Since they're not traveling home, they look forward to spending a part of their holiday with familiar faces in new settings.

For Yuki Kunimatsu '13 and Kanako Mabuchi '13, both exchange students from Japan, their vacation will still include a great deal of travel. On an Amtrak route from New York to New Orleans, the pair will visit various cities along the way, including Miami for New Year's Eve. They want to explore Ameri-

can life outside of New England. "Let's find America," said Mabuchi with a laugh as he explained for the inspiration for their grand tour.

Others are excited simply to explore the Middlebury area. Basij-Rasikh sees the December recess as an "opportunity to get to know the town better. We have this beautiful town and we're so busy we don't have the time to explore."

Many students plan to go shopping on Main Street and enjoy lazy afternoons in coffee shops. They are aware that dining halls and other campus facilities will be closed for a portion of winter break but the task of buying fresh ingredients in town to prepare homemade meals is one they happily anticipate.

Many international students agree that what they're looking forward to most is cooking, relaxing, and reading during the three-week break before Winter Term. There will be plenty of movie and game nights arranged for the group remaining on campus.

Students like Tangut Degfay '15 of Ethiopia, have already begun planning activities for her friends. September orientation may have introduced them to many new faces, but the busy nature of the academic semester has not allowed them to spend much time together. December break "will be a good time to meet with them again," says Quayyam.

Winnie Yeung '15 would agree. Yeung, from Hong Kong, looks forward to spending time with other international students remaining on campus. "It's like an extended sleepover," Yeung says of living here at Middlebury during vacation. "If you have friends staying, it's not much of a problem."



LAST WEEK OF CLASSES

Can you believe how fast this fall flew by?

EGG NOG

Do they sell this by the keg? If so, do I have to register it? HOLIDAY SPIRITS Sherry, Baileys, rum.

FINALS So. FINALS Much. FINALS Work.

THE J-WORD: LOTSA LOVE EDITION "I'll drink to that":



BY LEA CALDERON-GUTHE

I have written this column for nearly three years based on my perception of sexual activity on campus, and so far no one has complained that my views are inaccurate. When SOAN 0301 shared the relationship section results of their all-campus survey (remember the email beguilingly titled "DRUGS, SEX, AND \$50"?), however, I figured I should see if my observations stand up next to actual data. For the most part they do, but I have a couple of new observations

Just a note on my analysis, you're going to have to trust my status as a statistics professor's daughter (and my success in psych statistics two years ago) as proof of my capacity to read survey results. English majors can also occasionally read numbers. I rounded off percentage points to manageable numbers for quick reference, but the link to the full results is online at go/thecampus.

THE SURVEY

The 1,123 students who took the survey represent about 45 percent of the student body, if the website's report of a 2,450-student population is accurate. For practical purposes I will tentatively invest in the data as a representative sample, but keep in mind that for all we know the other half of the student body who didn't take the survey could feel totally differently about relationships. I use "we" when I extrapolate the survey results out to conclusions about the Middlebury student population, but I am aware (and you should be, as well) that I am only making broad generalizations. All of the questions were also not answered by all of the respondents, but I have only reported on questions that achieved high response rates.

WHAT WE DO

The split was 45/55 (yes/no) on whether respondents had ever been in a relationship, and about 70/30 (yes/no) on whether respondents had ever participated in a hook-up. So far, we're doing what everybody thinks we're doing: we're hooking up more than we're dating, and the majority of us have at least tested the sexy time waters.

WHAT WE WANT

Around 55 percent of respondents wanted more monogamous romantic relationships, while 30 percent wanted more continuous hook-up relationships and only 13 percent wanted more one-night stands. Thirty percent of respondents also felt no desire to increase their sexual or romantic life activities at all. About 35 percent of respondents were sick of being single, and 20 percent wished they had fewer one-night stands, but a whopping 52 percent of respondents felt there was nothing they were already doing that they wanted to do less. It seems that we want more sex than less in whatever form it takes, but I was surprised that such a large portion of the population also wants to date more seriously. Jyoti would be proud.

WHAT WE THINK

Seventy percent of respondents found it easier to find a hook-up partner than a relationship partner (only five percent found the opposite is true), and 25 percent thought they are equally easy (or hard) to find. Respondents reported that the best environments for meeting relationship partners are student organizations, dorms and in class (70, 66 and 60 percent respectively), but respondents chose parties as the best environment for meeting hook-up partners by far (96 percent). Social houses were the next most popular at 60 percent, and dorms and sports teams fell on either side of 30 percent. It's interesting that we like to find our relationship partners while engaged in activities of sustained mutual interest, but we expect our hook-up partners will arise out of chance encounters (at parties or in social houses) or, for some of us, out of convenience (in dorms or on sports teams). I also wonder if dorms weren't a more popular environment for meeting relationship partners than hook-up partners just because if

you start sleeping with someone you also live with, you're more likely to find yourself inextricably attached.

DO WE THINK WE CAN GET WHAT WE WANT?

Eighty percent of respondents thought Middlebury provides us with opportunities to find someone to hook up with, but only about 40 percent of respondents thought Middlebury provides opportunities to find someone to date. However, almost 60 percent of respondents thought the kind of person they would like to date goes to Middlebury and only 50 percent thought the kind of person they want to hook up with goes to Middlebury. We apparently feel we have ample opportunities to hook up with people (about whose desirability we feel ambivalent). But when it comes to dating, a majority of us think the right person is out there, we just haven't had the chance to meet.

The number of respondents actively looking for sex or romance was between 25 and 30 percent, so while a majority of respondents generally wanted more romantic relationships (55 percent), the search for a partner does not necessarily seem to be urgent. More startling to me is that at least 25 to 30 percent of respondents essentially answered, "Meh" to each of the questions on student satisfaction with or desire to pursue dating and sex at Middlebury. As someone who lives a very sex-positive, romantic love-driven existence, I often forget that some people (apparently a lot of people) don't send their friends sex toy recommendations or obsess over other people's love lives. Some people feel ambivalent about their sex lives, or maybe just about the College's role in their sex lives, and that can be completely healthy, too.

CONCLUSION-LIKE STATEMENTS

In this column, over the years, I may have occasionally overreacted to what I perceived as a dearth of dating and an epidemic of loneliness on campus. It looks like the vast majority of us have "gotten some" at least once while at college, and at least we think we have plenty of opportunities to get some more. We do seem unsure (30 percent of survey respondents felt neutral about the issue, and 30 percent felt negatively) as to whether Middlebury provides enough opportunities to meet people to date, however, which puzzles me. The majority of respondents thought the kind of people they would date go to Middlebury, and they thought the best environments to meet people to date were student organizations, dorms and in class. I think Middlebury offers those environments in spades, so if we frequently find ourselves in the right place, and we think the right people are out there, but we still think we lack opportunities to meet the right people, then that onus might be on us. Now that we all know the chances are better than not that someone we like is open to the idea of dating, and we know where we're going to find people we might like, all that's left is to walk up and say hello.

a holiday mixology

By Ethan Schmertzler

Easy holiday entertaining requires food that can be prepared ahead of time or pulled together quickly so you can spend time with your guests and enjoy the party too. Favorites over time have been a seafood buffet of things like smoked salmon; or a whole cold poached salmon; shrimp; herring in wine or sour cream; mini crab cakes; etc. Offered with lots of different sauces, toppings and breads, a seafood spread feels elegant and luxurious. However, there is little, if any cooking involved, and nothing has to be served hot out of the oven.

Another good alternative is to go with a large item like a sliced ham, or smoked chicken or turkey. They do not have to be very hot, and they can be served with small rolls allowing everyone to make their own mini sandwiches. Provide different mustards and mayo.

Other easy foods are things like mini quiches, spanakopita, cheese puffs, etc. These foods are best served warm, but the good thing is there are quite decent versions available in the freezer compartment of any grocery store.

Salads with various grains, nuts and dried fruit like cranberries can be great as side dishes. They are easy, because they can be prepared ahead of time and served at room temperature.

A great accompaniment is champagne or sparkling white or rose wine, which is festive and won't break the bank. There are lots of nice alternatives from the United States, France, Italy, Spain and other wineproducing countries with a wide range of prices. Options such as the Segura Viudas NV Brut Reserva or Freixenet Cordon Negro Brut Cava (both \$9, Spain) are easily accessible and perfectly reasonable.

Good non-alcoholic offerings are cranberry spritzers with lime, sparkling apple juice or sparkling grape juice. Soda and sparkling water are also good to have.

Putting some extra time into presentation heightens the quality of experience, and the appreciation for both food and drink. Don't let the ubiquity of red cups numb you to other possibilities. Have on hand a stack of small plates, napkins, forks or toothpicks and glasses. There are lots of decorative paper goods available everywhere. Add flowers and relax.

Should you wish to bartend, be sure to settle on something relatively simple to make. Pick one or two drink offerings for company, to minimize prep. Make it easy to strike a balance between being a caterer and enjoying time with your guests. If your

selection calls for juices, squeeze them beforehand, and remember that fresh citruses make an appreciable difference in taste. While nuances certainly exist between certain makers, on average one tends to get what they pay for when it comes to spirits. For reasonable purposes, above \$20 per 750 ml. the rate of return for quality begins to decline steeply for most liquors. Bombay, Bulleit, Jameson and Mount Gay are all respectable makers.

For something different at your next gathering, here are two recipes worth try-

New Swanson



2 oz Bulleit bourbon 1 oz Diep 9 Apple Genever 1/8 oz Knappogue Castle 12-Year whis-

2 dashes Angostura bitters

Combine all ingredients in a mixing glass filled with ice. Stir vigorously for twenty seconds. Strain into ice-filled rocks glass, and serve.

Avenue Gabriel



ETHAN SCHMERTZLER

1.5 oz Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey

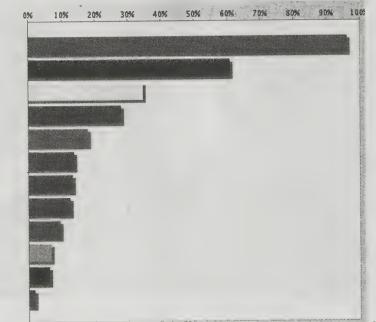
0.5 oz green Chartreuse

0.15 oz light agave syrup

2 dashes Peychaud's bitters

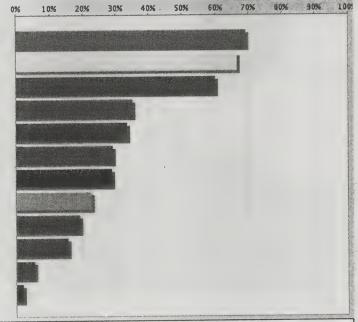
Orange twist

ENVIRONMENTS STUDENTS THINK ARE BEST FOR MEETING POTENTIAL HOOK-UP PARTNERS



■ Parties ■ Social House Dorm ■ Sports Team ■ Student organization or club ■ The Grille ■ Class/Group Projects ■ Off Campus ■ Dining Hall ■ Library ■ Internet Dating ■ Other:

ENVIRONMENTS STUDENTS THINK ARE BEST FOR MEETING POTENTIAL RELATIONSHIP PARTNERS



■ Student organization or club Dorm ■ Class/Group Projects ■ Parties Sports Team # Dining Hall # Social House # Library # Off Campus ■ The Grille ■ Other: ■ Internet Dating

COURTESY: MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Holiday season sees increased fundraising

By Alexandra Strott

"Generally, this is a time when people are generous with their donations," said JJ Boggs, associate dean of students for Student Activities & Orientation. She explained that this is just one of the reasons why fundraising on campus seems to get so hectic during holidays.

But it's not just because of softer hearts that students bombard their peers with candy grams, friendship bracelets and t-shirts this season. Fundraising requires more than finding a table to set up outside of Proctor or Ross.

It takes groups a few months to project proposals and fundraising groups up and running. Club sports suddenly realize that they need travel money for springtime championships. And the deadline for Middlebury Alternative Trips (MAlt) funds is quickly approaching.

MAlt is a service organization at Middlebury, whose trips are designed

and lead by students. It creates service raising groups try different tactics. trips for College students over February break (and "mini-MAlt" trips during long weekends in the fall).

"MAlt offers opportunities for students to participate in strong direct service that seeks to address needs as determined by a local community partner," said Ashley Calkins, the community engagement coordinator in the Center for Education in Action (EIA).

Students who lead a MAlt trip with the Service Cluster Board of the EIA to select a project and determine it's cost. These include travel expenses, an organizational fee and lodging. After an expected student contribution is subtracted from the total, the remainder must be raised through fundraising. Budgets for MAlt trips range from a few thousand dollars to more that ten thousand dollars, and usually include around 10 stu-

Competing for holiday dollars, fund-

Asia Stuerznickel '14 printed teeshirts to raise funds for her volunteer trip to Ghana during Winter Term, where she will be a Winter Fellow for the notfor-profit Community Water Solutions. Since Stuerznickel's project is not a student-created one, her fundraising efforts originated not through Civic Engagement but outside of the College. That means that she is not allowed to use the student fundraising website, MiddSTART, where alums can view projects and donate.

Asia needs to raise enough money to cover the costs of implementing a sustainable water treatment business in a rural village in Ghana. She wrote letters to businesses in her hometown, set up a donation page on the website Crowdrise and talked to friends who might be interested in donating. In addition, she registered a t-shirt selling booth in front of Proctor and sold t-shirts through the box office. According to her profile on Crowdrise, her goal is \$2,000.

One MAlt group, MAlt El Paso, plans to offer massages in the library during finals week, according co-leader Adam Lang '14. Members of the trip will volunteer in a hospitality house for immigrants.

Other groups, such as the Middlebury Quidditch team, had t-shirts made that they sold at matches. Similarly, the Service Cluster Board made t-shirts to be sold in order to support Tropical Storm Irene victims back in October.

With all the crowding in the Christmas charity market, groups try not to step on each other's toes.

"With five [MAlt] groups, we have to be careful not to interfere with another group's fundraising because our job is to support each other," says Lang. "We've found that it's really best to coordinate with each other, such as telling our friends about other fundraising events that are going on."



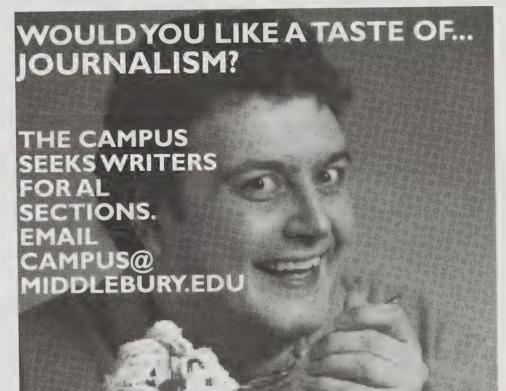
Otter Creek Used Books

has moved down creek from Main to Marble Works.

Check it out. Windows! Books! Look for the blue awnings.

Always buying used textbooks.

99 Maple Street, Marble Works 802-388-3241





You mean I can submit an op-ed on anything?

E-mail campus@middlebury.edu with your opinions. You have them, we print them.



SUBSCRIBE Middlebury Campus TODAYI

Get the College
weekly delivered
straight to
your home. By
subscribing, you
are supporting
a 100-year-old
tradition that has
trained countless
journalists, writers
and designers,
including Pulitzer
Prize winners.

VISIT HTTP://BOXOFFICE.MIDDLEBURY.EDU

ARTS & SCIENCES

Fall Dance Concert ▶ showcases raw talent in "before the ghost light" Page 18













TOP LEFT: The cast looks off into the distance in one of the show's musical numbers. TOP RIGHT: Aldonza (Nejla Calvo '12) pushes away touchy onlookers. BOTTOM LEFT: Various inn patrons mock Aldonza. BOTTOM RIGHT: The Padre (Charles Giardina '12) pleads with the Lord in an emotional scene.

By Santiago Azpurua-Borras

In the realm of Spanish literature lies one of its greatest classics: El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha, written by Miguel de Cervantes. It weaves a tale of a Spanish nobleman, who, after reading one too many books about romance and chivalry, takes it upon himself to live out the life of an adventurer. The time-tested musical interpretation, Man of La Mancha, came to the McCullough Social Space thanks to Charles Giardina '12, who directed and starred in the piece, as well as helped design the sound and set.

The musical starts off with a number of the players already laying on the stage (presumably dead or sleeping for what I can only imagine was an uncomfortably long time) in an asylum hidden

somewhere in La Mancha, Spain during the 17th century, at the time of the Spanish Inquistion. The two newest cell mates, Cervantes (Nathaniel Rothrock '13) and his servant (Thomas Scott '14, who also plays Don Quixote's fictional servant Sancho) find themselves at the mercy of both the officers of the Inquisition and their fellow cellmates. As they are held on trial, Cervantes tells the story of Don Quixote as his defense plea, which then begins the numerous musical pieces of the story.

Giardina and his merry band of players and crew did a fantastic job bringing such a strange story to life. Rothrock delivered a great performance, showing effortless code-switching between two different characters: Cervantes and Quixote. Combine that with his fantastic singing, which will

leave lord and lady humming along alike, and you have one very talented

But behind every knight there is both a lady and a squire. Aldonza (also known as Dulcinea) is the object of Quixote's heart and his squire, Sancho, is a symbol of his friendship. Played by Nejla Calvo '12 and Scott respectively, they brought a certain richness to the stage and moved the plot along smoothly, each with his and her own musical numbers.

However, all was not well in the land of the unexpected Inquisition. In some instances where the show was plagued by annoying microphone hiccups, and the stage fighting appeared very goofy at times from the stands, but luckily there wasn't too much of it for it to be of any real concern.

The costumes were well done, and really fit the tone of the individual characters and setting, as well the minimal set design that, for some odd reason, despite lacking detail, was perfect for what the players were trying to achieve.

Man of La Mancha was, overall, a well structured and designed musical that breathed life into an otherwise dusty literary classic.

In his director's notes found inside the play bill, Giardina said, "Ultimately, I hope this show not only makes you laugh but inspires you to do the 'mad' thing and brightens up your corner of the world in whatever way you can."

While I won't be putting on a green leotard marked with purple question marks anytime soon, I can say that I will be humming the musical's tunes for some time to come.

A Million Tiny Deaths

The senior theater work of Emily Rosenkrantz '12 (acting) and Kelsey Ferguson '12 (directing) tells of a company of freaks seeking voyeurs for a night of fairy tales, fetishes, distortion and alienation. Tickets \$4. 12/8 - 10, 8 P.M., HEPBURN ZOO

Student Film Showcase

The Film and Media Culture Department presents an evening of student films made in "Sight and Sound II," "3D Computer Animation" and Senior Independent Studies. The projects represent a culmination of a semester's worth of film production. Free. 12/12, 7:30 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Pity Party

Naomi Shafer '12 debuts her senior theater work, a play reading about a girl named Eva, who, after her boyfriend's death, loses her ability to communicate. She befriends Natalya, a seductive voice from her Russian language tapes. Free. 12/12, 8 P.M., SEELER STUDIO THEATRE

Symposium features **PSYC, NSCI projects**

by Anna Flinchbaugh

According to its website, the McCardell Bicentennial Hall's Great Hall was intended to encourage "collegial interactions among the various departments." While this goal sounds highfalutin and vague, it is by no means unattainable. Many symposia, such as the annual Clifford Symposium, Spring Symposium and Summer Research Symposium, occur in the immense, yet intimate, meeting space, providing a medium in which students and faculty can come together and explore and discuss new ideas and proj-

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, the Great Hall was host to another, smaller symposium featuring work from both the psychology and neuroscience departments. The poster session was comprised of students from three classes - Professor of Psychology Barbara Hofer's "Psychology and Emerging Technology" senior seminar, Visiting Instructor in Psychology Adela Langrock's "Stress and Coping" senior seminar and Associate Professor of Psychology Jason Arndt's "Research Methods" class - as well as other students pursuing independent research projects. Though this event was not nearly as large as the three major symposia, student attendance was impressive.

Students in Hofer's technology-focused seminar attempted to take an objective look at the myriad ways in which new media are changing the ways in which "we think, relate, connect, learn and work." In projects that hit frighteningly close to home, the students researched the effects that the wired world may be having on our brains. Particularly salient as we

head into the finals crunch were projects on Facebook withdrawal and procrastina-

The work presented by Langrock's students was equally current with College student life in the weeks before finals begin. The seminar explored the effects of different coping strategies and stress on "physical and psychological well-being."

Attendees at the symposium needed to keep their eyes sharp around the presentations of Arndt's students. Students enrolled in his "Research Methods" class were presenting research proposals rather than actual projects or independent research. Despite this, their professional-looking posters and well-constructed graphs fooled more than one visitor into questioning the presenters about their (hypothetical) results. Nonetheless, they were still a vital element in the mental

As neuroscience major Kira Gordon '12 noted, the diversity of the classes participating made it difficult to apply knowledge from each other's projects directly to their own. However, she went on to explain that presenting her own research and exploring other students' projects was still a valuable experience that helped each presenter improve and find meaning in his or her own research project. As scientists, these interactions are invaluable, as peer-review is a major aspect of

"Seeing other students' research how they've laid out their findings, the conclusions they've drawn from their data and how they've interpreted their results - is always beneficial," said Gordon. "It forces you to take a closer look at your own research."

BOOKING IT

I read a lot. I suppose that is a rather obvious fact. And while there is nothing wrong with reading in any spare time I might have, I find that sometimes my ample mental literary inventory makes it harder and harder to find books that truly touch me in some way. I live for the moment when I'm only halfway into a book and already raving about it to my friends, when I am excited to turn the page and exclaiming over plot points aloud, even in very crowded dining halls at extraordinarily inappropriate times. When I started reading Mark Haddon's The Curious Incident of the Dog in Nighttime, I realized that I had found a book

THE CURIOUS

DOG IN NIGHT-

TIME

Mark Haddon

that did all these things. This is one of those novels that has been on my incident of the to-read list for ages. Having finally picked it up for my often-talked-about children's lit course, I was immediately reminded why the book had received so much hype in the

The main character, Christopher Boone, is a fifteen-year-old with autism living in England with his father. He tells us early on that his mother "went away" to the hospital and died of a heart attack, leaving him with his bluecollar father who tries his hardest to understand his son's view of the world, with limited success.

It is the goal of the reader to try and understand Christopher as well, a feat that is much easier than one might think. Explaining what he thinks, he is incredibly direct in language and logic. I honestly found myself thinking that what he was saying made a lot of sense. I do have a rather extensive knowledge of autism spectrum disorders, thanks to my mother's master degree and years of teaching, and so while I read the book actively noticing the symptoms of the disease, I also was able to see Christopher as a character in his own right, not a clinical diagnosis. I believe Haddon was aware of this while writing, and wanted to present Christopher in a way that we understood he was different and could easily identify those differences, but also see within ourselves some of those same ticks.

There are wonderful moments of humor in the novel, when Haddon's sarcasm comes through other characters. Christopher also provides particularly hilarious bits, although the reader does struggle with whether or not you are laughing at

him or simply the situation. This is a novel that forces you to think, that makes you uncomfortable and yet in the end catches you up in a young man's triumphs.

There is profound sadness as well, especially reading as an adult. Never have I empathized so readily with parents, but there are moments when my heart simply broke for Christopher's

father. For fear of ruining any important plot points, I won't discuss my appreciation and sadness surrounding the character of Christopher's mother. I'll only say that her character is a bold choice by Had-

I struggle to find a fault with this novel, and honestly can only come up with my sadness upon finishing it. Christopher, despite his many triumphs, is still on a hard road, and it is the reader's knowledge of this juxtaposed against Christopher's naïve ignorance that pull at the heartstrings. But don't let that stop you. This is a novel for adults and children. each getting something completely different out of it, but in the end simply enjoying the story of a boy who is endearingly different, and incredibly sincere.

THIS WEEK ON WRMC 91.1 FM

HIP-HOP EDUCATION 101 WITH DJ POSTMAN

The longest running hip-hop show on WRMC. THURSDAY 10 P.M.-12 A.M.

FILM SCHOOL ON THE RADIO WITH ALAN SANDERS

This week on Film School on the Radio, another great movie will be discussed (what did Woody Allen really mean by that fade out?), more amazing trivia will be revealed (why does Wes Anderson use Futura Bold in all of his credits?), and a new soundtrack will be played (woah, this track really fits the melancholic mood of the movie). Tune in to find out what this week's movie is. TUESDAY 6-8 P.M.

IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN WITH SAM WYER AND JOANNA ROTHKOPF

This week, DJs Sam and Joanna will take a step back for IYKWIM meta week. Only featuring songs containing the phrase, "If you know what I mean," these two hours promise innuendo, euphemism and misunderstanding. Featuring a perfect mix of tunes to listen to whilst studying in library, drinking with friends or sleeping in your bed, this week's IYKWIM will pump you up while slowing things down!

ANGRY FANS WITH BRAD BECKER-PARTON AND SPENCER WRIGHT

This week on Angry Fans, the guys will welcome back the NBA season with a round of their increasingly popular game, "The Lineup Game," the "Name that Tune" of sports trivia. Call in if you want to be the third contestant. MONDAY 6-8 P.M.

THE SALT AND PEPPER HOUR WITH STEPH AND AWA

You put salt and pepper on your food? Great! We put it on our music. The Salt and Pepper Hour highlights new, indie artists every week that we feel have been strongly influenced by classical artists within their respective genre. This week, the show will play songs that pay tribute to special women, honoring them through the beauty of music. We'll be featuring classics such as "Jolene," "Penny Lane" and "Izabella." If you have a beautiful woman in your life that you'd like to celebrate over the airwaves, give us a call! SATURDAY 8-10 P.M

LOOKING FOR REPORTERS!

Interested in in adding to the campus conversation? Want to sound like Ira Glass? The Middlebury MUSE wants your voice on the air! We are looking for reporters who will dig deep and find the interesting story. Email mpolebau@middlebury.edu if interested.

BY DANA WALTERS

Seemingly odd though it is for the director of Taxi Driver, Mean Streets and The Departed to take on a children's movie, it quickly becomes clear that what is most necessary for Martin Scorsese to direct Hugo is something he already possesses - a passionate love for the cinema. The film, which is based on the Caldecott Award-winning book The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick (a relation of classical Hollywood director David O. Selznick), combines the could-easily-be-trite notions of the "magic of the movies" and the innocence and imagination of youth into a fabulously non-corny adventure. Instead, adults and children alike are transported to 1930s Paris, inside the clocks of a train station, to keep time

ics of movies and memories. Hugo begins with a sense of excitement and tragedy. Scorsese paints the animated, lonesome life of Hugo (Asa Butterfield) as he darts around the train station's intricate clockworks. Keeping the clocks in sync and functioning, he lives in constant run from the vigilant and comical Station Inspector (Sacha Baron-Cohen) and the toy shop owner out to get him (Sir Ben Kingsley). Despite the initial sense of thrill, Hugo is alone. An orphan after his father (Jude Law) dies in an accident and his uncle abandons him, Hugo lives by his wits and quick hands until he is caught and that is the moment, ironically, when his real adventure begins.

Not entirely bereft when his father dies, Hugo is left with his and his father's last project, an automaton, or self-operating machine akin to a robot. When he is caught stealing tools from the toy shop owner in order to repair the automaton his father had found rusting in a museum, Hugo starts upon a journey of discovery that delves into the beginnings of

cinema and its ability to make dreams come alive. When he comes across the embittered toy shop owner's buried dream, Hugo digs into his fix-it skills to try to repair the human heart, a more complicated mechanism than what he had previously dealt with.

Along for the ride are the toy shop owner's god-daughter, Isabelle, (Chloë Grace Moretz), who thinks that only the potential for trouble in an event constitutes an adventure, and Isabelle's god-mother and the toy shop owner's wife, Mama Jeanne (Helen Mc-Crory, who some may recognize as Narcissa Malfoy of Harry Potter fame).

In much the tradition of Pixar's Wall-E and Up!, Hugo capitalizes on the new trend in which children's movies are better than much of the adult fare arriving in theaters today. Hugo is filled with a genuine emo-

- tion unseen in any movie Keanu Reeves has ever been in.

Although the film deals in topics like the intersection between dreams and reality and the place of illusion in life, at its heart is the burgeoning relationship between the toy shop owner Georges

with Hugo Cabret as he explores the mechan- Méliès and Hugo. Both "objects" in need of repair, they find the answer to their lacking parts in each other. We find that metal tools do not fix everything. Sometimes you need the the familiar touch of family.

Kingsley and Butterfield both excel in showing the evolution of this relationship. And Scorsese does an admirable job in not over-using 3-D technology in the sensationalist way that many filmmakers do, with objects jumping out at you in an attempt to make you jump from your seat. Instead, the 3-D aptly speaks to the amazing feats movies have arrived at today in a film that hearkens back to the first reels of film ever shot.

In the end, Hugo succeeds at instilling a child-like mentality in even the most jaded adults. Becoming cynical at the state of the cinema today is easy, but Hugo resurrects the innocent perspective that allows the sticky floors of that butter-scented AMC theater to fade, until all that matters is the miraculous visual going on before you, and more importantly, the people who accompanied you there.

BY EMILY SCARISBRICK

It is almost Christmas time, and if your tastes are leaning towards the instrumental this holiday season, then there is only one recording you can seriously be heading towards: the Kirov Orchestra's recording of Pytor Illych Tchaikovsky's timeless "Nutcracker Ballet." Released in 1998, the quality of this rendition certainly doesn't seem like breaking news. But year after year, this recording proves itself to be amongst the finest and most widely appreciated of any recent interpretations.

Valery Gergiev, now of the London Symphony Orchestra, translates the piece for listeners rather than watchers. The problem with music for ballet is that it can be overshadowed by what's going on onstage: the costumes, the glitter and the men in tights all distract the listener from the subtleties of the music exploration at hand. Furthermore, orchestras playing for live ballet shows are essentially, and tragically, accompanists. Their job is to best support whatever it is the dancers are doing. The conductor in the opera pit is the means by which they achieve this; he is constantly interpreting what is happening in the ballet for the orchestra to adjust. He tweaks dynamic, caesuras and tempo constantly so that the two parts of the show relate to each other. Yet the stage always takes the lead.

Gergiev's treatment of the Kirov Orchestra is radically different from this. He prioritizes the

THE NUTCRACKER else. This is most Pytor Illych Tchaikovsky

music over all clearly seen in the pace of the movements. The first thing

you'd notice that makes this stand out from other recordings is the sheer speed of the orchestra. Yet the line they draw is fine. At no point does the orchestra make it feel like the pieces are tripping over themselves, or rushing to a conclusion. But the up tempo performance certainly keeps the energy high amongst the players and only enhances the incredible joy of the classic tunes like the "March."

Increased tempo, some might say, would distract from the exposed melancholy of moments like the raw oboe melody in "Pas de deux: Intrada." But this is just when the power of conducting for an orchestra rather than ballet comes into it's own, because in this instance Gergiev is able to hand the reins completely over to the soloist without being constrained by the movements of dancers. The result is a wonderful exchange between oboe and lowregister clarinet that somehow never feels overwhelmed by the full string score humming underneath it. Another highlight of this movement, and one that again speaks to Gergiev's control of the timing of the orchestra, is the increased space between the three final tonic chords. For veterans of the piece, this lengthening towards the end feels almost like a musical joke, and the clipped final chord of the piece propels the listener forward into the next movement.

Aside from the ingenuity of pacing in the recording, the instrumentalists themselves perform with sheer flair. Never have the textural and phrasing contrasts between instrumental sections been so clear and full of character. In the infamous "Waltz of the Flowers," the broad string theme is offset by the light flute motif. This is matched by the dialogue between the rich, yet never heavy bass, as the clarinet climbs around in its melodic range with a clear and round sound before the whole orchestra triumphantly folds together: brass shooting up the octave to compliment the huge tutti crescendo and accelerando, enhanced by very timpani that is all the more effective for its temperedness.

"The Nutcracker" is a perennial favorite for ballet and music lovers alike. I've always found the plot bizarre and the staging muddled in the various performances I've seen. But this complete recording of the ballet (that fits miraculously onto one CD) allows the sometimes dramatic and often charming music to be appreciated for its own sake.

FOR THE RECORD Dancers display ghostly talent

by Claire Sibley

Opening night of the 2011 Fall Dance Concert, before the ghost light, found a full dance theater and a sold-out show, and for good reason. The Dance Department's seemingly increasing fan club came excited and responsive with applause during bows plenty explosive enough for the Red Hot Chili Peppers. The audience left sated by the department's usual suspects, several pieces of break-out choreography and Visiting Lecturer Christal Brown's newcomer piece, "An Undone Ritual."

Finding underlying thematic unity between the 10 pieces proved difficult, but what ultimately tied them together was thoughtful composition and intensely dedicated execution. The evening opened with Rachel Nuñez's '14 "It's Made of Glass," a duet between the choreographer and Cameron McKinney '14. Costumed in matching red shirts and black dress pants, Nuñez and McKinney's movement invited dialogue between contrast and similarity, alluding to Riddim-like qualities without being wedded to them.

Veteran dancer Alex Vasquez '12 followed with "Stepping Back," a piece of ache and separation: the backbone of the work was Vasquez soloing in opposition to an often-empty chair placed downstage left; her movement carried the quality of retrospection. Dancers Sara Bachman '13, Lilah Leopold '13 and Nuñez counterpointed the choreographer's tense and tortured solo with muted procession, their shadows haunting the stage. The piece finished with a heartbreaking closing of the door and an oppressive finality.

Vasquez's mind-bending grace opened the vein for the ghostlike bloodline of the concert to which its title testifies. In her choreographic debut, Alicia Evancho '12 stunned with "The Unblinking Eye," a triumph of alien synergy. Her dancers showcased the work with mingled talent and commitment, often manipulating limbs in a way only to be described as delightfully creepy. Similarly, James Moore's '12 "All This Is Only For You" reveled in a study of deterioration into eloquence, accompanied by the choreographer's own poetry and music recalling The Shining, steeped in death and memory.

But at times the ghost receded from the work, allowing the relief of emotionally upbeat pieces; Jessica Lee's '13 "Waterlines" explored the tension of water in an exhaustively perfect technical composition. Dancers Sarah Briggs '14, Kate Murray '15 and Annie Powers '15, costumed appropriately in skirts of blue-purple, left the impression of a water molecule's organized, crystalline purity, softened by inspired lighting and Zoe Keating's cello. Brown's newcomer piece, "An Undone Ritual," held a similar synchrony — though employed to a level of almost disturbingly metronomic precision, the movement was exacting but varied, both elegant and decisive, finishing with a fierce procession upstage.

Jill Moshman '14 and Hannah Pierce



Alicia Evancho '12 performed her surrealistic choreographic debut, "The Unblinking Eye" in this past weekend's Fall Dance Concert, beyond the ghost light.

'13, both choreographing for the first time, both made pieces with entirely female casts - though each had decidedly different tones. Pierce's "Spate" combined an almost professional crispness in dress with elastic, fluid movement. Her dancers, cast in blue, arranged and disarranged their bodies, recalling the logic of a dream. Moshman's "The Between" found itself a structure in the breath-like ticks of a clock, at times frenetic and at others frozen. Costumed in outfits of red and white, Rebecca Hicks '15, Sarae Snyder '15 and Isabella Tudisco-Sadacca '13 were crossed with black tape on their bodies and pink tape on their fingers. The movement was delicate but obsessive, blending the distinction between object and person.

Davis Anderson's '13 "Out from the Ashes" was an ambitiously intense piece performed by dancers with varying experience and common passion; Douglas LeCours's '15 remarkable articulation paired wonderfully with Dave Yedid's '15

performative authority and Rafael Velazco's '15 colorful intention. The piece, lit in shocking red and blue, was both indulgent and entertaining.

Veteran dancer Sarah Chapin '12 ended the concert with "Reframing Agency," a solo exploring the limits of the human body. It is a work of alarming difficulty, outpouring a fierce athletic movement quality measured by high-tension quiet.

As a whole, before the ghost light was riddled with moments of brilliance, not only in choreography and dancing, but in lighting. Lighting Designer and Technical Director Jennifer Ponder perfectly underscored the movement, illuminating Pierce's keening solo in Moore's piece or isolating Nuñez and McKinney in a single band of light, all while neither accessorizing or dominating the work

With its spring of abounding talent and prowess, before the ghost light proved itself as testament and proof of the College community's growing hunger for dance.



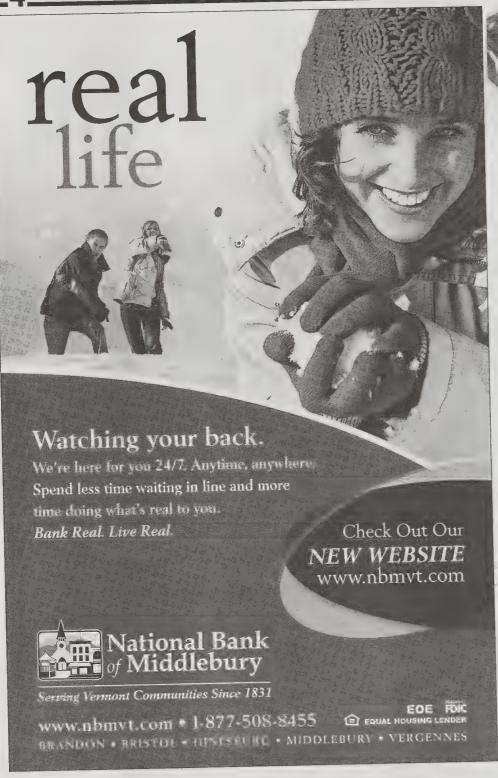
The Middlebury Campus

BE A PART OF A TRADITION

JOIN US

WHETHER YOU CARE ABOUT POLITICS, SPORTS, INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM, THE ARTS, FOOD, SCANDAL OR FILM, THERE'S SPACE FOR YOUR WORDS.

CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU







Bookstore Holiday Sale

December 9th - December 17th

Your holiday shopping made easy!

Check the bookstore web site for daily events & specials

Special sales on Midd clothing, giftware & trade books

Sign up for our daily raffles

Participating vendors include

Beau Ties, Danforth Pewter, Vt. Soap Co., Starr Decoys & Chatham Caravan



GET GREEN

Middlebury College Bookstore

Monday-Friday, Dec. 12 - 16, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday Dec. 17, 9:00 - 5:00

Donate your no value books to 'One Planet Books' and proceeds will be



EDITORS' PICKS

Will men's hockey complete another weekend sweep?

How many wins will the men's basketball team have when we return from winter break?

Will women's hockey beat Manhattanville?

Who will have the greater margin of victory against Springfield, men's or women's swimming?

Which LA NBA team will have a better record when we return from winter break?

CAREER RECORD



KATIE SIEGNER

YES This will be a true test for the Panthers, but I'm optimistic (as always).

I'd expect nothing less from the top team in the nation (and my heart).

YES At the very least, I should get points for eternal optimism.

WOMEN'S Love you Alex! (And you too, Adam,

but unfortunately gender bias plays in here as well.)

LAKERS I hate them, but they are good.

74-86 (.463)



DAMON HATHEWAY

This team has so much depth. Even in a down year they romped Amherst 4-1 last season.

I'm scared to write anything for fear of jinx. I'm Tebowing.

The Panthers beat Manhattanville en route to the Frozen Four last season and will do it again.

WOMEN'S

In the battle of Alex v. Adam you always go with Alex. What gender

CLIPPERS

Phil Jackson gone, Andrew "Bigger Baby" Bynum still around = slow start for the Lake-show.

28-22 (.560)

DILLON HUPP

Damon sniped the lead by picking against Middlebury, so forgive me for trying the same tactic.

The number one team isn't supposed to lose. And we won't.

They've won every editor's pick we've featured them in this semester.

WOMEN'S Sports editors trump news editors every time.

LAKERS

As much as I wish it were the other way around, the Clippers will always be the Clippers.

86-76 (.531)

They are on a roll and key players are stepping up their game.

YES

ALEX EDEL

They are the top-ranked team. Nothing can stop them now.

YES

They are off to a great start and will beat a nationally-ranked Manhattanville squad.

WOMEN'S

We are off to a great start!

LAKERS Duh.

47-52 (.475)

WHAT'S BETTER THAN GOOGLE? SPORCLE.COM

'S BETTER THAN SPORCL

DLEBURYCAMPUS.COM



WANT A PIECE OF THE ACTION?

The Middlebury Campus is seeking new writers, photographers and bloggers in all sections.



To find out more information, send an email to campus@middlebury.edu.

Women's basketball succumbs to Daemen

By Dillon Hupp

The Middlebury women's basketball team came back down to earth last weekend, dropping both of their games in the Williams Invitational tournament to fall to 2-3 on the early season. This was following back-to-back momentum-building victories over Wheelock and Castleton State, in which the Panthers dominated their opposition on the defensive end. "We recognize

Middlebury's first game in the Williams tournament came against Daemen College on Friday, Dec. 2. The game that we play Panthers' usually solid defense let them down early, giving up a 14-2 run to start the game. From there, Middlebury attempted to chip away, eventually cutting the lead to just two after

a layup from guard Katie Ritter '15. Then, with Daemen starting to regain control of the game, Tracy Borsinger '13 hit a threepointer to keep the deficit at four. The Wildcats would eventually lead by a score of 30-23 at the half.

Daemen opened the second half on another strong run, this time to the tune of 13-3. Middlebury did not even manage a field goal in the second half until nearly 10 minutes had passed. At that point, however, it was far too little, far too late, as the Wildcats would go on to take the game by a final score of 59-41. Borsinger and Sarah Marcus '14 both had nine points for the Panthers, and Katie Pett '13.5 gathered eight rebounds.

From there, Middlebury took on Bridgewater in the tournament's consolation game on Saturday, Dec. 3. There would be no tip-off woes for the Pan-

thers this time around, as the teams traded buckets through the opening minutes of play. The Panthers battled back when the Bears opened up a six-point lead with 12 minutes left in the first half, getting points from Marcus, Borsinger, and TRI-CAPTAIN GUARD tri-captain Brittany Perfetti '12 during a run that

helped them tie the game at 16 points apiece. The Panthers and Bears matched each other blow for blow throughout the remainder of the half, and headed into the break deadlocked at 35.

Unfortunately, that was as close as the Panthers would get. Bridgewater came out hot to start the second half, and what was a steady eight-to-10 point lead slowly turned into a 15-to-20 point lead as the half transpired, and eventually the rout was on. Middlebury wound up losing by a final score of 80-55, by far their worst defeat of the young season. Tri-captain Maddie Moreau '12 led the Panthers with 12 points, and Pett, who was named to the all-tournament team for her efforts, had eight rebounds to go along with six points.

After a strong start to the season, and coming off of back-to-back wins going into the tounrament, the Panthers will have to look at their fourth-place finish as an opportuntiy to get better.

"We recognize that we must sustain the type of game that we play for the entire forty minutes," said tri-captain Brittany Perfetti. "We competed with both teams in both of the first halves. We have to start working on how to keep an intense level of play for the entire game. As a team, we recognize that playing very competitive teams before NESCAC play will definitely get us prepared for January. We just need to utilize what we learned from this past weekend and use those new awarenesses to our advantage."

The Panthers will go to Skidmore this weekend to take on the Thoroughbreds. Following Winter Break, they will begin the conference portion of their schedule, starting out with a key matchup against NESCAC rival Tufts in the Maine Maritime Tournament Jan. 2-3.



Maddie Moreau '12 led the Panthers against Bridgewater with 12 points.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Tufts WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Trinity 3-1 W off the Kenyon Arena ice.

that we must sus-

tain the type of

for the entire 40

minutes"

BRITTANY PERFETTI '12

MEN'S SQUASH vs. Navy

SWIMMING & DIVING vs. Amherst Losses

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Bridgewater 80-55 L

Men's hockey opened conference play strong with a key win over the

The Panthers took it to the Bantams twice last weekend, sweeping them

Men's squash pulled out a close win over the Midshipmen at Williams.

Swimming and diving couldn't keep up with the Lord Jeffs, as both the

Women's basketball took a tough loss in the Williams Holliday Classic to

Men's Basketball earns No. 1 ranking in nation

CONTINUED FROM 28

the early competition for the sixth man

"I think he does [bring a different element to the team]," said head coach Jeff Brown. "I think with the addition of [Brierley] we are certainly a better perimeter shooting team than we were a year ago and offensively we are stronger than we have been in the last several years."

Merryman, meanwhile, also collected eight rebounds to lead the team. Peter Lynch '13 - the Panthers' leading scorer - tallied 19 points on seven of nine shooting. Lynch is shooting better than 65 percent from the floor and has been one of the most efficient players in the

The Panthers played the first five games of the season without senior cocaptain and preseason All-American Ryan Sharry '12.

"I think as a unit we're trying to find an identity and playing early in the season without [Sharry] has benefited us [by allowing us] to look at other players who would have had a lesser role if he was healthy," Brown said.

Fittingly, Sharry returned to action in Middlebury's first game defending their number one ranking and - as only Sharry can — led the team with 16 points on six of seven shooting from the floor.

The Panthers got off to a slow start against the Wildcats of Johnson &

Wales, turning the ball over on two early possessions before an emphatic follow-up dunk from first-year Dylan Sinnickson '15 electrified the Pepin Gymnasium crowd, bringing it to its feet. Sinnickson finished the game with 13 points off the bench on five of eight shooting wile leading the team with five rebounds in just 15 minutes of play. The Panthers dominated the remainder of the first half, going into the break with a 51-17 lead — highlighted by Sinnickson's dunk and then an electrifying buzzerbeating, off-balance three-point heave from Joey Kizel '14 at the end of the first half, eliciting a roar from the home crowd. Kizel was nearly perfect in the game, shooting five of six from the floor, two of two from beyond the arc and all three free throws in the game for a total of 15 points. Kizel also had three rebounds and five assists while not turning the ball over. The Panthers as a team had 24 assists and just four turnovers - a tremendous six to one

Jake Wolfin '13 led the team with six assists and could have had a few more but some easy misses robbed him of a potential double-digit assist game. Thompson had 11 points and played stellar defense for the Panthers while holding the Wildcats to just 39 percent shooting and 30 percent in the first half.

The top-ranked Panthers (6-0) travel next to Skidmore (4-1) on Dec. 9.

Swimming and diving competes at Amherst

By Kevin Yochim

Coming off solid performances against Tufts and Connecticut College, the Middlebury swimming and diving team looked to continue their strong start to the season against Amherst last weekend. Both the men and women's teams came up short against the still undefeated Lord Jeffs, one of the top Division-III teams in the country. The men lost 162-116, while the women fell

The men had a tough time on Saturday against a deep Amherst team, not winning a race on the day. The Panthers are a very young team this year, with each "A" relay team featuring three first-year swimmers. Christo Vandiford '15 had a great day, placing third in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:02 flat and turning in the second-fastest breaststroke split in the 200-yard medley relay. Teddy Kuo '15 finished third in the draining 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:02.21. Another first-year, Ethan Litman '15, placed third in the men's 100-yard freestyle with his time

Tyler Sandoval '13 turned in a 54.13 in the 100-yard butterfly, capturing the men's lone second-place finish of the day. Middlebury got off to a good start in the final race, the 400-yard freestyle relay, when Nick Daly '12 put the Panthers in the lead after the first leg with a time of 48.39. However, they could not hold off the more experienced Amherst team as they fell 2.77 seconds short.

"Our men are young and hit a great team," said first-year coach Bob Rueppel. "Our second half was much better."

The women's meet was much closer than the men's. The Panthers got off to an exciting start with a victory in the 200yard medley relay. Their time of 1:49.23 was only two-tenths of a second ahead of Amherst. The Panthers got out to a big lead in the race after a blazing breaststroke split of 29.94 by Jamie Hillas '15 and were able to hold off the Lord Jeffs in the final leg.

Courtney Haron '15 captured the 200yard freestyle with a time of 1:58.07, more than a full second ahead of Amherst's top competitor. She would later finish second in the 500-yard freestyle. Andie Tibbetts '14 won the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 58.81 and followed it up later

with a second-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke. Hillas easily won the 100yard breaststroke with a time of 1:06.77 and later won the 200-yard individual medley. Maddy Berkman '15 won the 100yard butterfly in 59.05 seconds, the only swimmer to break a minute in the event.

The meet was much closer than the final score would indicate, as the Panthers were within striking distance until the very

"I think we really surprised ourselves by giving Amherst, a traditionally outstanding team, a run for their money," said Tibbetts. "We had a number of remarkable swims and I continue to be exceedingly proud of

On the diving side, Skylar Dallmeyer-Drennen '14 and Omar Carmical '12 turned in solid performances for the Panthers. Carmical placed second in the 3-meter event with a score of 156.15. Hannah King '13 finished second in the 3-meter event, less than five points behind Amherst's firstplace finisher. Later in the day, Adrianna Baker '15 captured second in the 1-meter event with a score of 173.47.

"This is an exceptional group," said Rueppel. "Leadership has come from our seniors and they have been incredible. This team has had a focus from Nov. 1 to buy into

our training plan." The loss dropped the women to 2-1, while the men fell to 0-3 on the year. The Panthers will travel to Massachusetts this weekend for a dual meet against a talented but beatable Springfield College team.

Number of Middlebury student-athletes announced to the fall NESCAC academic

Number of combined wins for the men's and women's hockey teams over NESCAC foes last weekend.

Number of rebounds for Katie Pett '13.5 in the Williams Holiday Classic. Pett was named to the all-tournament team.

Number of the men's basketball team's team has ever earned the top-ranking.

Number of rushing touchdowns by Cam Newton this season, breaking the alltime record for rushing TDs by a QB.

Panthers continue strong start

CONTINUED FROM 28

all 13 shots throughout the game.

Middlebury had the upper hand for the duration of the game, with a total of 32 shots compared with Conn. College's 13. After a 5-3 loss to the Camels in the opening weekend of last year's season, the team showed the strides they have taken with this shutout

The Panthers continued to prove their power the following day in their 3-2 win over Tufts, a team that also beat them at the start of last year. Although Middlebury had a 19-8 shot advantage over the Jumbos in the first period, they were unable to convert on any of these and the score was 0-0 going into the second period of play.

However, the Panthers capitalized on their momentum from the first period, 4:07 into the second, with a goal from Ben Wiggins '14. The Jumbos came back right away with a goal at 9:32. Later in the period, Tucker Donahoe '12 grabbed the lead back from the Jumbos with a goal at 12:39 into the second quarter. Not letting the team get any leeway, Tufts fired back 32 seconds later to bring the score to 2-2 heading into the defining third period.

Determined to come out with a win,



The Panthers took two on the road, one from Conn. College and one from Tufts.

Drolet scored at 5:21 in the third period off of an assist from Mathieu Castonguay '13 and Brett Brazier '13. The wealth of players contributing goals and assists throughout the two games speaks well for the Panthers, in addition to getting these crucial two conference wins. The Jumbos capitalized on a mistake from the Panthers late in the

third period, but failed to convert the attempt into a goal, finalizing the score at 3-2 and completing the on-the-road sweep for

Ranked 11th in the nation, the Panthers will travel again this weekend to play Hamilton and Amherst in the team's final games

Women's squash swept by Harvard; men submarine Naval Academy 5-4

By Katie Siegner

Last week, the men's and women's squash teams continued their warm-up to NESCAC play by facing two other tough opponents - the women's team took on topranked Harvard on Wednesday, Nov. 30 and the men traveled to Williams to take on the 15th-seeded Naval Academy on Saturday, Dec. 3. While the women did not take a game from Harvard, falling 9-0, playing the best team in the nation was a testament to the increased strength of schedule that has characterized the team's start to the season.

"It was a great opportunity to get to play against the first-ranked team in the country and a good way to round out a tough opening to our season. We're excited to work hard over the next few weeks and return in January to see more evenly matched teams and come up with some big wins," said women's co-captain Al Boillot '12.

While the women did not come out with a win at the beginning, their matches against strong Ivy League foes were productive and helpful to team development.

against a strong Navy team, earning their first win of the season and proving that they are worthy of their high national ranking.

On Saturday, the men's team capitalized off of a solid performance from the middle of their ladder to pull out a win against Navy, in what proved to be a back-and-forth battle between the two teams.

"The guys in the middle of the lineup played extremely disciplined squash, letting the points develop without trying to end the point right away," said co-captain Jay Dolan 13. "With only one departing senior last year, our team has a lot of confidence in the middle of our lineup, and their efforts on Saturday simply reinforced this.'

The Panthers saw themselves fall into an 0-2 hole fairly quickly, losing matches at numbers three and nine. The match took a turn for the better after the pair of losses, as Will Moore '14 pulled out a solid win in the No. 6 spot and co-captain Dolan captured a

Cooper Redpath '14 furthered the Panthers' winning ways with a victory at No. 5,

The men edged out a well-fought 5-4 win but the tide turned back against them with yet another loss at the bottom of the ladder, as eighth-seeded Robert Galluccio '15 struggled against his opponent. This set the stage for a fairly dramatic end to the match, which remained up in the air until co-captain Addi DiSesa '12 sealed the win for the Panthers with his four-game victory.

'I wish we had won 6-3 or better, but for now I think we are all satisfied with the 'W,' our first of the year," said DiSesa. "We have played very well so far and I think we have a lot of potential. I'd like to see some of the younger guys step it up over break to make sure that we can compete all the way through the ladder when we return."

This first win for the Panther men is a significant confidence boost going into a long interim period, and proved to the college squash world that Middlebury deserves to be ranked among the leading teams in the na-

"We played a solid Navy team this year, and our results demonstrate that we too are a strong, recognizable program," concluded

Dillon says: Haters gonna hate. SEC football gonna keep winning national championships. There are few things that are certain in life, folks. Death, taxes and the BCS crystal ball residing in the Southeastern Conference are among them. Already this year the SEC has won an unprecedented sixth-consecutive national title, and they haven't even played the game yet. This year's matchup features LSU and Alabama, in a rematch of a 9-6 slugfest won by the Bayou Bengals back in early November. BCS detractors will cry about the lack of drama and intrigue created by such a matchup, and the annual playoff posers will crawl out of the woodwork, demanding a fair shake for the little guy. My response? They can read the sports section and weep. The BCS got it right this year.

Sure, there are other teams that could make a case for a spot in the title game. Allow me to refute them. Stanford finished the year with one loss, ranked fourth in the standings. And they are one future first-overall-pick quarterback away from being a mediocre PAC-12 team. Boise State also finished the year with only a single loss, and was ranked seventh in the standings. Their coach, Chris Petersen, claims that "everyone is tired of the BCS." I claim that if Boise could execute a simple field goal, they wouldn't be having this crisis of circumstance. The team with the most legitimate beef is Oklahoma State, which walloped Oklahoma in the Bedlam matchup and finished third in the rankings. But the simple fact of the matter is that the Cowboys just can't hang with LSU, as good a team as we've seen this century. The only team that even has a shot at making the national title game competitive is Bama. They and LSU are simply the two best teams in the country, period. It will be an all-SEC affair for the championship, and rightfully so.

But cheer up, SEC and BCS haters. At least it's certain that an SEC team will lose the national title game for once this

Damon says: Enough with the B*S. The whole thing is a farce. Every argument that could be made against implementing a playoff system in college football is twisted and arcane. I'm done with the whole system. You can argue, as Dillon has, that the two best teams are playing in the national championship game. And they probably are. But the nature of sports is such that the two best teams rarely do play for the championship. The two most deserving teams do. Imagine if the two best teams - based solely on the regular season - played for the title in every sport. There would have been no giant upset of the New England Patriots in 2007 and the 2011 St. Louis Cardinals one of the most improbable World Series champions ever — certainly wouldn't have won it all.

College football has effectively stomped on the "Cinderella Story." Sure, TCU won the Rose Bowl last season to cap off an undefeated season and Boise State beat Oklahoma in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl, but as college football stands there can be no Butler, no Gordon Hayward, no eighth-seeded Villanova taking down powerhouse Georgetown — no seminal underdog moment that makes sports great. Regardless of who you believe should or shouldn't play for the national championship game, there's a much larger issue at hand — how college football rankings are determined.

The system by which teams are ranked in college football could be more trivial only if every editor on the Campus was given a vote. Hell, that might even improve the process. Of the six computer polls that are averaged and then combined with the two human polls that determine that national rankings, only one makes its algorithm available to the college football powers that be. It would be like having a totally under-qualified scoring system that assesses students from around the nation to determine how we get into college. Oh wait.

Dillon Hupp '12 is from Little Rock, Ark. and Damon Hatheway '13.5 is from London, England.

Third-ranked Middlebury still unbeaten in NESCAC

starting to come

together and I

of potential"

CONTINUED FROM 28

ery

his

his

ted

the puck traveling back and forth across the ice, with neither team managing to successfully score.

Just over one minute into the second

period, Middlebury managed to take a 1-0 lead. Maggie Woodward '13 took the puck down the right side, passing it to Ugalde who scored her second goal of the weekend. Later in the period, the Bantams had a close shot to tie the game, but Middlebury goalkeeper Laura

preserve the lead.

"Trinity has some quick forwards, but our defense did a great job getting the puck out of our end," commented Pinsent.

Pinsent '14 made a quick save to

Before time was up, Ugalde managed to score again, this time off her own rebound during a power play, increasing Middlebury's lead to 2-0. Trinity rallied later in the second period with a tricky shot from Payson Sword that put the Bantams on the board, 2-1.

Middlebury dominated the final period

of the weekend, outshooting Trinity 17-3 and gaining a third goal. Madeline Joyce '14 found the rebound off a shot by Bielawski and fired the puck into the net for her fourth goal of the season.

The Panthers won their second game of the weekend with a final score of 3-1.

After this weekend, "Our team is really Middlebury's record stands at 5-0-1 and 4-0 in NESCAC play. The thirdthink we have a lot ranked women will face off against Manhattanville LAURA PINSET'14 home on Friday, GOALKEEPER Dec. 9, at 7:00 pm. Middlebury last

faced off against the

Valiants on their road to a Frozen Four appearance in the NCAA tournament last season, a 1-0 victory. The Panthers will look to extend their success with their third out-of-conference victory of the season, and hope to make it two consecutive wins over Manhattanville dating back to last year.

Katie's Comments

MEN'S BASKETBALL They put points on the

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

board like it's their job.

Sweeping a NESCAC rival at home is big.

MEN'S HOCKEY 3+2 Big steps from last year with the latest pair of wins.

SOUASH The men's team beat the Navy. That takes muscle.

SWIMMING & DIVING At least they have more class than Amherst.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Tough losses, but they were D-II opponents.

FALL ATHLETE HONOREES What up Academic All-Americans?!?!

WINTER BREAK Winter athletes hone their skills, the rest of us relax.

Women's hockey sweeps series over Trinity

By Mike Oster

The Middlebury women's hockey team hosted Trinity this weekend, Dec. 2 and 3, for their 2011 home opener. The Panthers and Bantams faced off twice, with Middlebury walking away with a two-win sweep over the weekend.

"This weekend was our home opener, so it was great to come out with two big wins," said Panther goalie Laura Pinsent '14. "Our team is really starting to come together and I think we have a lot of potential."

The Panthers started their dominance of the Bantams on Friday, Dec. 2 with a 2-1 win. Middlebury scored the first goal of the game 5:10 into the first period. Madison Styrbicki '13 took a shot that went wide, but Hannah Bielawski '15 was there to pick up the rebound. Bielawski circled before firing the puck into the top left corner for her first career goal.

Trinity evened the score with a goal at 11:30 later in the same period. Bantam Lauren Glynn scored a backhander that snuck by Middlebury goalkeeper Annabelle Jones '15. The score remained at 1-1 for the rest of the first period, with Trinity goalkeeper Alexa Pujol stopping a Molly Downey '13 shot to keep the game even.

Middlebury continued to



ANDREW PODRYGULA

The Panthers outskated their NESCAC rivals Trinity, as their forwards put consistent pressure on the Trinity goaltender in both games.

pressure the Trinity defense, outshooting the Bantams 16-7 over the game. The Panthers failed to take advantage of a power play 2:35 into the second period, when Lauren Greer's '13 attempt later rebounded

off the crossbar. Trinity almost managed to take the lead at 13:08 off a shot from Rebecca Rosen, but Jones made a quick save to keep the game tied at the end of the second period.

The Panthers finally scored

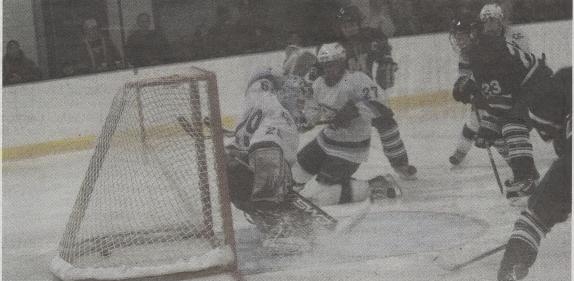
the winning goal 7:43 into the third period off a power play. Greer assisted Sara Ugalde '14, who gained her second goal of the season. The Middlebury defense held off the Bantams for the remainder of the game to

win the first game of the double header.

The two teams were on the ice again Saturday, Dec. 3, for the second game of the weekend. The first period saw

SEE THIRD-RANKED, 27

Eighth-ranked men's hockey throttles Camels, edges Tufts



COURTESY: JEFF PATTERSON

The Panthers received scoring contributions from numerous players in the pair of NESCAC games.

By Alex Edel

The men's hockey team advanced to 4-0 in NESCAC after shutting out Connecticut College and beating Tufts 3-2 on the road. Their overall record has advanced 4-1-1, with the tie and the loss coming against strong non-conference opponents.

The weekend started out on Friday, Dec. 2, against Conn. College on the Camels' home ice. After a scoreless first period, the

Panthers came out strong in the second period, scoring all four of their goals. Just 48 seconds into the second period, Martin Drolet '12 scored off of an assist from Charlie Strauss '12. Just under 11 minutes later, Strauss scored himself off a feed from Luis Belisle '14. Continuing the sequence of assisting then scoring goals, Belisle netted one for himself two minutes later on a power play, increasing the Panther's lead to 3-0 in just 14 minutes of play.

The Panthers did not give the Mules any leniency, as Belisle scored again off of a breakaway two minutes after his first goal. After a period that started off o-o, the team saw themselves ahead by four goals heading into the third period. Although the Panthers failed to score in the third period, goalie John Yanchek '12 successfully preserved his third career shutout, turning in saves against

SEE PANTHERS, 27

Sharry '12 returns, team earns top spot

By Damon Hatheway

For the first time in the history of Middlebury athletics, the men's basketball team has earned the number one ranking in the nation. The Panthers capped off a thrilling week that included two wins and 197 points scored with the knowledge that they are currently the top-ranked team in the country. How long that lasts remains up to them. They will play with a target on their back for the remainder of the season and will certainly get their opponent's best game every time they play.

After a 107-51 win at Southern Vermont on Nov. 29, the Panthers returned home a week later with a 90-46 win over Johnson & Wales on Dec. 6 - their first game defending their number one ranking. Middlebury's 107 point drubbing of Southern Vermont marked the first time that the Panthers have broken the century mark since a 108-64 decimation of Tufts on Jan.17, 2009, while the 197 points they scored over the course of the past two games is the most in consecutive games since Jan. 9 and 12, 2007,

when Middlebury beat Green Mountain and Colby 102-47 and 100-93 respectively.

The Panthers shot a scorching 52 percent from the floor in the win over Southern Vermont, thanks largely to 20 team assists and just 10 turnovers. Three players scored double figures as first-years Hunter Merryman '15 and Dean Brierley '15 scored 10 and 20 points respectively in that game. Brierley led all scorers, scoring his 20 points in just 16 minutes. The first-year from Morristown, N.J. was seven of nine from the floor and four of four from beyond the arc.

Brierley, in the early-going, has provided something that the Panthers final four team of last season lacked — the ability to knock down shots from beyond the arc. Only co-captain Nolan Thompson '13 shot better than 40 percent from beyond the three point line last season among players who attempted 10 or more threes. In the first six games of the season Brierley has shot nearly 44 percent from deep and his ability to stretch the floor gives him a leg up on

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, 26





WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL DROPS
TWO AT WILLIAMS
PAGE 26



TAKE ON THE BCS
PAGE 27